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May Day at the end of month?

The Government is thinking of ending the May Day Bank holiday after this year and adding the day to the spring Bank holiday to make a four-day break at the end of May. Mr Michael Alison, Minister of State for Employment, reported complaints about the number of holiday breaks in the spring.

Walesa 'expects release soon'

Mr Lech Walesa is still enthusiastic and believes he will be freed "for good" by March 7 to attend the baptism of his baby daughter, Maria Victoria, Father Henryk Jankowski, chaplain to Solidarity, said after visiting the union leader

Priests accused, page 7

Prior to speak on De Lorean

Mr James Prior, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, may make a Commons statement on Friday on the future of the De Lorean Motor Company. Mr John de Lorean and his fellow board members will meet Mr Prior tomorrow.

Former agent in drugs ring

Howard Marks, a former agent for MI6, pleaded guilty at the Central Criminal Court to his part in an international drug smuggling group. Marks, aged 36, of west London, was sentenced to three years' imprisonment A tangled world, page 3

Friedman turns on Thatcher

Professor Milton Friedman, the Chicago economist and leading proponent of the monetarist policies adopted on both sides of the Atlantic, has rounded on the British Government and said that the performance under Mrs Thatcher has been "terrible" Page 13

Thorn's jab

The EEC needed drastic economic measures, Mr Gaston Thorn, the President of the European Commission, told the European Parliament. Condemning internal dissensions, he said the Community was lurching from wine war to turkey fight. A single market was threatened from all sides Page 8

Holiday reprieve

British Caledonian is to lease two of Laker Airway's 380-seat DC10s for £1m. The move has saved smaller package holiday companies from a scramble for aircraft seats Page 3

Aggett 'beaten'

Dr Neil Aggett, the white trade union leader who died in South African police custody, was stripped, ill-treated and beaten, Mrs Helen Suzman claimed in Parliament in Cape Town Page 7

Rules revision

The rules of golf, which are so complicated that even some of the game's most knowledgeable experts are sometimes caught out, are to be rewritten in a form that the average golfer will understand Page 18

TROUBLED ALLIES

In the second of a series of articles by former world leaders, Willy Brandt, West German Chancellor from 1969 to 1974, argues that Nato must not abandon the fundamental goals it set itself in 1967—military equilibrium, political detente and balanced disarmament

World Cup form guide

A detailed guide to the form during the past year of the 24 national football teams who have qualified for the World Cup Finals which start in Spain in June appears in *The Times* tomorrow

BR postpones accepting report: strikes to go on

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

British Rail refused last night to accept for the time being the committee of inquiry's report into the six-week-old railways dispute despite the report's being approved by the three unions in the industry. There was no early indication that the series of 24-hour Aslef strikes will be called off.

The management is not convinced that the report, which the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen proclaimed a victory for its case, is clear enough on whether the union will be committed to the introduction of productivity measures involving the abandonment of the present eight-hour working day.

The Aslef executive decided to accept the report of Lord McCarthy's committee with the proviso that British Rail would immediately pay the 3 per cent pay rise that the management has been withholding from the footplatemen since the beginning of the year. The executive had insisted that the strikes would not be called off—the next is due to take place tomorrow—until British Rail had notified its staff of its intention to pay the increase to the 20,000 drivers.

Last night, after a three-hour meeting of the the railways board, Sir Peter Parker, its chairman, said: "I would like to be a little clearer on the commitment to productivity, and when we get that clarity we will then make up our minds.

We have to pay 3 per cent for something, not nothing. We want to be absolutely sure that there is no dubiety at all on the productivity."

In the meantime the 3 per cent would be withheld, although the board believed that the report had several positive aspects. Management officials asked the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) to seek the clarification the board wants.

Mr Pat Lowry, chairman of Acas, later invited the management and the three unions to a meeting this morning.

The McCarthy report recommended that, subject to Aslef's agreeing to a strict negotiating timetable with a final deadline of March 19, British Rail should pay the 3 per cent and put the dispute back into the industry's negotiating machinery.

Mr Raymond Buckton, Aslef's general secretary, said that the report was "a victory for Aslef and a victory for the train drivers who had stood firm over the weeks". He emphasized that Lord McCarthy had supported the line that Aslef had been taking since the start of the dispute.

His view, was not universally shared, however, and as well as British Rail, the other two rail unions believe that Aslef's acceptance of the report committed it to introducing the controversial flexible rostering which has been at the heart of the dispute that has so far cost the railways more than £60m.

Aslef refused to give evidence to the committee of inquiry, saying that it could not agree with flexible rostering's being included in the terms of reference. British Rail has suggested to Acas a form of words that it hopes to get Aslef to agree to, committing the union to the introduction of flexible rostering.

Mr Buckton denied last night that Aslef's acceptance of the report committed it to flexible rostering, saying: "We will not be a party to the elimination of the guaranteed eight-hour day. We shall go into negotiations and we shall see what they bring."

It was that remark that persuaded the board against immediate acceptance of the report.

The inquiry recommended that as the 3 per cent was paid the introduction of flexible rosters of seven and nine hours should be put into the industry's negotiating machinery, and laid down that it should be referred up to the railway staff's national tribunal if there was no agreement.

Lord McCarthy is also chairman of the national tribunal which will make final judgement on the introduction of new rosters. Aslef believes the new rosters will lead to the loss of 4,000 footplate jobs.

The National Union of Railwaymen and the Transport Salaried Staffs Association have already agreed to flexible rostering and have been paid the 3 per cent.

Mr Tom Jenkins, general secretary of the TSSA, said: "The strikes should be called off and the people concerned should get back to normal working as quickly as possible"

McCarthy report, page 2
Leading article page 11

Soviet ship sinks in rig disaster area

By Our Foreign Staff

A Soviet cargo ship sank yesterday in an Atlantic storm near the area where the big oil rig, Ocean Ranger, went down on Monday. Rescue officials said they feared that altogether more than 100 men had perished in the mountainous seas.

The Soviet ship, the Mekhanik Tarasov, had a crew of 37. There were 84 people on the rig. The rescue officials in Halifax, Nova Scotia, said that so far only four or five survivors from the ship had been picked up and that 15 bodies had been found.

While Canadians became enmeshed in a controversy about safety standards and the operation of rigs in heavy winter weather, the 2,300-ton Soviet factory ship, Tolbachik, and a 444-ton Faroese trawler, the Sigurdfarid, patrolled the area where the Mekhanik Tarasov sank. Two rig service vessels and two Buffalo aircraft searched for bodies where the Ocean Ranger went down in the Hibernia oil field. Helicopters were grounded because of a risk that the rotors would ice up.

The 4,262-ton Mekhanik Tarasov, sailing to Europe from the St Lawrence river port of Trois Rivieres, developed a pronounced list during the night before going under.

Rescue officials said that two lifeboats from the Cargo ship had been sighted and a third was missing. "We don't know where it is—it could be on the sunken ship", one said.

The lost Russian seamen may have died needlessly. A Swedish ship stood by for three hours and a half to take them on board but the Russians stood fast awaiting the arrival of a Soviet trawler that was battling towards them through winds of up to 100 mph.

A coastguard ship was diverted from its course to the Ocean Ranger disaster area but when it reached the location of the Russian vessel it was all over.

Meanwhile, the oil industry was in a state of shock at the speed with which the huge structure of the Ocean Ranger slid beneath the sea, 160 miles from St Johns. The coastguards were alerted by the captain at about 1 am on Monday that the rig had developed a list of around 15 degrees. Half-an-hour later came the last message: "We are taking to the boats."

From that moment inadequacies in the rescue services became apparent. Helicopters were available near by but they are of limited use when sleet and snow enter search operations.

The nearest fixed-wing Buffalo search aircraft was five hours away on Prince Edward Island and it had to stop at St John's to refuel before heading out into the Atlantic. When it eventually located the site the rig had disappeared.

It took more time to locate two of the rig's lifeboats and it was even longer before a third was discovered. By then more than 12 hours had elapsed. However, the storm was savage even by the standards of the North Atlantic.

For years Newfoundland's leading politicians, regardless of party, have demanded a full rescue unit at or near St John's, which was yesterday mourning the loss of dozens of local men.

More than half of the victims came from the island of Newfoundland and clergymen had to struggle through narrow, icy roads to reach villages, hamlets and outlying houses in order to comfort relatives. Apart from Canadians, the dead included 15 Americans, and one Briton. At sea the Atlantic swell was still 30ft, the wind more than 20 knots. And in the aftermath, there were more questions than answers. Is it true that last Saturday week the crew of the Ocean Ranger scrambled for lifeboats when the rig listed badly? Were they familiar with emergency procedures? And did most of the 80 or so men try to cram into one boat equipped for 50 to 58 people?

Crewmen from the Ocean Ranger, who were ashore on leave or off-shift when it sank, have been making allegations of "lackadaisical" safety measures on the rig.

Mr Robert St Aubin, an ice-watcher, was quoted in the *Ottawa Citizen* as saying that a safety exercise last Thursday was riddled with errors and confusion. When the alarm sounded, there was chaos.

"All the people at the high station went to the lower one. We have 63 people at my lifeboat and it only holds 58.

Hazards for crews and MPs query seaworthiness, page 6

Brian Harris



Visitors framing a self-portrait of Meredith Frampton at a private show yesterday of the artist's retrospective exhibition at the Tate Gallery, London. The exhibition opens to the public today.

Prior wins approval for Ulster assembly

By Philip Webster
Political Reporter

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, yesterday won the approval of his Cabinet colleagues to go ahead at full speed with his plans for devolved government in the province, including the setting up of a 78-member assembly.

After seeing his proposals, the Cabinet's overseas and defence committee, meeting under the chairmanship of Mrs Margaret Thatcher, gave Mr Prior clearance to attempt to complete his talks with political parties in Ulster and to bring forward a draft White Paper and a draft Bill within the next few weeks.

Mr Prior would like to have legislation setting up the assembly, to which powers would gradually be granted under a system which has become known as "rolling devolution," on the statute book before the summer recess. But that, he told colleagues, would depend on him gaining some degree of acceptance for his plans from Northern Ireland politicians.

In a speech to the Conservative Bow Group at the Commons last night, Mr Prior remarked: "It may be that at the end of the day I conclude that a new initiative just could not work: that the differences between the parties remain so great that it would be pointless to try". But if that happened it would be a great tragedy for the people of Northern Ireland, he added.

The emphasis being placed by Mr Prior on winning acceptance for his plans rather than aiming for outright agreement was significant. The reaction from Ulster politicians has so far been predictably unenthusiastic but he is hoping that the attraction of power will encourage the four main political parties at least to give the proposals a chance.



Mr James Prior: Narrowing differences.

He told the Bow Group: "I am not setting out to seek full agreement from all the parties. My objective is much more to try to narrow the differences, to try to bring the disagreement within proportions which are at least manageable".

Under Mr Prior's plans an assembly would be established, with departmental committees, but essentially it would have no real powers until its members decided they wanted them.

Elections to the assembly would be held later this year but it would be granted devolved powers only with the support of a "weighted" majority of its members, so defined as to ensure the backing of the Catholic minority.

Mr Prior told the Cabinet committee that the figure he had in mind was a 70 per cent majority, although this was not regarded as rigid. The plans also envisaged the formation of an executive and that, too,

Continued on back page, col 4

'Ludicrous' nil pay increase angers civil servants' union

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The Government yesterday unveiled plans to introduce "market forces" into public service pay. Civil servants were offered wage rises ranging from nil to 5.5 per cent, depending upon whether there were any staff recruitment problems in their grade.

Civil service union leaders immediately denounced the Treasury's £170m salary package as "stupid and ludicrous" and told ministers they would go directly to arbitration because there was no point in further negotiations.

About 65,000 government white-collar employees, one in eight, will receive no pay rise at all this year. Young people fare worst as most staff under 21, employed on pay scales related to age, stand to get nothing.

The Treasury said it had made the controversial shift in pay policy because the Civil Service had no difficulty in recruiting the staff it needed, in most grades, at present rates of pay. The biggest increases, of 2.5 per cent on April 1 and a further 3 per cent during the year, are being offered to the most senior and experienced staff in each grade.

They are the people the Civil Service finds it most difficult to retain in competition with the private sector, and the Government had for some time warned the union that it intended to reshape the Civil Service salary structure to take account of such market forces.

However, the unions were last night outraged that the Cabinet had approved the step in advance of the report of the Megaw Committee which is investigating Civil Service pay and the forces which should be taken into account.

Mr Campbell Christie, deputy general secretary of the Society of Civil and Public Servants, said: "The Government is tampering with the system for deciding Civil Service pay at a time when an independent inquiry—appointed by the Government itself—is considering the whole issue. There will be widespread indignation at what the Government is trying to do. We will be seeking arbitration as soon as possible".

There was no threat of a repeat of the 21-week dispute that paralysed key sections of the Civil Service last year and led to the setting up of the current inquiry under Sir John Megaw, a former appeal court judge. His report is expected in the summer.

In detail, yesterday's Treasury package offer gives 65,000 employees no pay rise; 1 per cent to 70,000; 1.5 per cent to a further 95,000 and the largest rise of 5.5 per cent to 240,000—almost half the service. There would be no increase for most adult new recruits in their first year of service, and no change in the lowest step of incremental scales at any level.

Another controversial aspect is the offer to enter into negotiations with private medical insurance companies to see whether the Government could obtain discounts for its employees. If this proved possible, each individual could choose whether to take advantage of any new arrangement and to pay the costs.

The Treasury is also breaking new ground by making interest-free pay advances for the purchase of season tickets. Some modest improvements in leave allowances are included. Mr William Kendall, general secretary of the Council of Civil Service Unions, said: "This stupid and ludicrous offer is a cynical attempt to give nothing in the guise of something. It is an offensive offer, calculated to exacerbate an already dangerous industrial relations situation.

Teachers reject 3.4 pc offer

Union leaders representing 450,000 teachers in England and Wales firmly rejected an opening offer from local authorities yesterday of a 3.4 per cent pay increase, which they described as an insult (Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent, writes).

The teachers are seeking an increase of 11-12 per cent from April 1 to keep the purchasing power of their salaries in line with inflation. The average annual salary of a teacher is at present £7,800, so a 3.4 per cent increase would mean about £5 extra a week for the "average" teacher.

A 12 per cent increase would add about £540m to the total annual salary bill of £4,500m for teachers in England and Wales. A 3.4 per cent increase would cost £150m. The difference between the unions' claim and the employers' offer represents the equivalent of about 50,000 teachers' jobs.

600 American combat troops for Sinai

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, Feb 16

The American Government has decided to station troops of its Rapid Deployment Force in the Sinai as part of the international Peacekeeping Force. The plan will involve the stationing of 600 combat troops from the crack 82nd Airborne Division in the heart of the Middle East from the middle of March.

Senior American sources told *The Times* today that the 600 paratroopers will form the core of the United States proposed contribution of about 800 men to the 2,500-strong force.

The American troops will be stationed at a new £40m base now being constructed by a consortium of three American contractors at Sharm El Sheikh, the Red Sea port on the southernmost tip of the Sinai peninsula.

At present the 82nd Airborne Division is based at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where it forms an integral part of the RDF, the force designed to combat Soviet expansionism in the region. Troops from the unit played a key role in the "Bright Star" desert exercises staged in Egypt toward the end of last year.

In Western diplomatic circles there was speculation tonight that the Pentagon plan will increase suspicions about the Sinai force in the Soviet Union and among the radical Arab states.

These are already implacably opposed to it as it is an essential prop to maintaining the Camp David peace process.

During the long and complex diplomatic manoeuvres necessary to establish the force, the Reagan Administration was accused by its critics abroad

Continued on back page, col 2

Jetsave chief disowns $2m executive jet

By Philip Robinson

Associated Communications Corporation disclosed yesterday that it is investigating the circumstances of a $2m (£1.09m) order for an eight-seater Cessna jet for the group's Jetsave subsidiary.

The order, on which a $600,000 deposit has already been paid, was placed last summer when Lord Grade was chairman and Mr Jack Gill was deputy chairman of the tour operator, which is 85 per cent owned by ACC.

But Mr Reginald Pycroft, Jetsave managing director who owns the remaining 15 per cent stake, said last night: "This jet was ordered without my approval, without my board's approval and against my advice and wishes.

"When I discovered about last autumn that it had been ordered, I formally disassociated myself from it. Executive jets are the ultimate in corporate decadence, they cost £500 an hour to keep in the air, they do not fit in with an ailing company. Although the aircraft is in Jetsave's name, I want nothing to do with it at all."

Last September, Mr Gill suddenly departed as managing director of ACC and High Court action is still pending to stop a record £560,000 being paid to him for loss of office, which is part of a £750,000 golden handshake.

ACC's investigation into the purchase of the aircraft is part of an exercise by Mr Robert Holmes a' Court, the new chairman, to cut what he describes as the former extravagance of ACC, which included the purchase of four yachts and a fleet of Rolls-Royce company cars.

Mr Holmes a' Court said: "We are applying the normal commercial standards. The standards of this company had been extravagant."

Directors' shares, page 13

A cruiser for P&O – made in Finland

By Alan Hamilton

With a boldness worthy of the old Elizabethan adventurers, P & O, the British shipping company, has placed an order for the largest and most expensive purpose-built cruise ship ever constructed, to enter service late in 1984.

The 40,000-ton vessel, to be built in Finland at a cost of £80m, will carry 1,200 passengers in unashamed and expensive luxury. As yet unnamed, and known only as "Yard No 464", the new ship will be considerably smaller than either the Queen Elizabeth II (67,000 tons) or the P & O flagship, Canberra (45,000 tons); but both those vessels were also built for regular passenger service, a trade that is all but dead.

No 464 will still be the largest passenger ship ordered by a British line for 20 years, and will increase the P & O cruise fleet, already the world's largest, to eight.

Announcing the order yesterday, Dr Rodney Leach, chairman of P & O Cruises, said that 19 shipyards throughout the world had been approached, including British Shipbuilders and the troubled Harland and Wolff yard in Belfast, but none of the United Kingdom builders had been able to satisfy P & O's requirements on price and delivery dates.

The contract has gone to the Wartsila yard in Helsinki. "We believe they have the right degree of experience, and the most imaginative ideas; but they finally won on cost and time", Dr Leach said.

Britons will not build No 464, nor will they be the first to sail in her. She will enter service initially on the lucrative and still-growing North American cruise market, where P & O has established such a reputation that it is now the largest cruise operator on the west coast, and in need of more tonnage to satisfy demand.

Later the new vessel will operate in both the European and Pacific cruising markets, but she will remain a British-registered ship.

P & O has managed to ride the storms of recession better than some competititors, by operating in the relatively untroubled waters at the top end of the market. Internal details of No 464 are being kept secret, but Dr Leach gave an assurance that it would contain many innovative features and maintain the standards of "posh" cruising, invented by P & O a century ago.

"We have always said we would order a new ship when we judged the timing was right in the marketplace. We are building the first ship for the 1990s. We have demonstrated that cruising can be profitable for a company with a broad spread of business", Dr Leach said.

Nifety cruise ships of all nations currently ply the oceans, but 40 of them, including the Belfast-built Canberra, are more than 20 years old and will soon need replacing. The largest of all remains the 71,000-ton Norway, which was better know as the liner France until bought and refitted by a Norwegian line.

Compared with her, and compared with the QE2, No. 464 will be a tiddler. She will be under 700 ft long, compared with the QE2's 963 ft. She will carry a crew of 500, half that of the Queen, and 300 fewer passengers.

And she will be barely half the size of Cunard's old pre-war Queens, which were not only the largest passenger ships ever built, but which were also ordered at a time of deep recession.

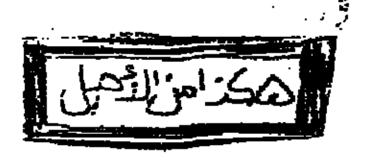
☐ Mr Stanley Orme, Shadow Industry Secretary, last night tabled a question to the Prime Minister about P & O's decision (the Press Association reports). And Dr John Cunningham, Labour's frontbench spokesman on shipping, said: "It is appalling that this major and significant order from one of the largest British shipping groups should have gone to a foreign yard".

The executive of the engineering union also sent telegrams to Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Mr James Prior, the Northern Ireland Secretary, and the chairman of P & O deploring the decision.

The executive asked Mrs Thatcher and Mr Prior to try to persuade P&O to use a British yard, and to give special attention to Harland and Wolff. Up to 1,000 jobs are to be axed at the state-owned yard in Ulster because of falling orders.



An artist's impression of the luxury liner to be built for P&O and due to enter service in late 1984.



Findings of the McCarthy inquiry

Use negotiating machinery, rail parties are told

The following are extracts from the conclusions of the committee of inquiry report and recommendations on the dispute between the British Railways Board and the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen:

Constraints and problems

When we agreed to undertake this inquiry we were well aware of a number of constraints and problems which we would need to overcome. In the first place we were working against the background of continuing industrial action and the loss of railway services and revenue. At the very least, this has imposed on us the need to find a quick and effective basis for a return to normal working.

It has been our experience that tight time constraints are not the best aids to arriving at lasting solutions to complex industrial problems. Secondly and just as important, we were already involved in the operation of the railway's established machinery for settling issues in dispute between all the parties. Our chairman is also the chairman of the Railway Staff National Tribunal. We have all been members of past tribunals which have made awards which were likely to be quoted in this inquiry.

Presumably it was partly for this reason that we were asked by the chairman of Acas to undertake the inquiry—it must have been assumed that we knew something about the issues in dispute. But our past involvement has made us very much aware of the need to safeguard the continued acceptability of the established machinery. We have, therefore, had to be careful to do nothing to undermine its future credibility in the eyes of all its signatories.

Yet as things worked out, our third constraint proved to be the most severe. When we agreed to serve we were given reason to believe that all the parties to the machinery would appear before us. This did not turn out to be the case and although we tried to secure the basis for the participation of the Aslef, it has not proved possible to arrive at a mutually acceptable way of securing this objective. Nevertheless, and after careful consideration, we were convinced that it was in the interests of all that we should not abandon our allotted task.

Origins of the present dispute

Given these constraints, we feel able to pronounce upon the origins of the dispute. It arose out of the actions of the Board after the publication of RSNT decision 75. This decision was made under Paragraph 65(b) of the machinery and was not binding on any of the parties. The Board were, therefore, free to take the view that the recommended pay increase of a further 3 per cent from August 1981 was not acceptable to them unless there was more progress on "productivity initiatives". But the unions accepted RSNT 75 as it stood and did not find the Board's view acceptable. Both the NUR and the Aslef gave notice of strike action to induce the Board to honour the terms of decision 75 in full.

As a result the parties decided to obtain the assistance of Acas and after discussion two "understandings" were agreed. The first dealt with six areas where the Board wished to see further progress to improve productivity. This dispute most directly concerns:

(1) What was involved in sub-paragraph 2(c) which reads:

"c Variable rostering hours within limits to be negotiated. Negotiations shall take place to establish variations to the rostering agreements with a view to introducing some flexibility around the eight hour day, but without producing unreasonable variation in the length of each working day of week. These discussions shall be concluded by October 31, 1981".

(2) It also concerns the "Understanding on Pay", the relevant parts of which read as follows:

"1 (ii) A further increase of 3 per cent on the rates prevailing on April 19, 1981 shall be paid to the same grades from August 3, 1981, the actual payment being made in the first pay period in January 1982.

2 The introduction of the shorter working week provided for in Paragraph 9 of the 1980 Pay Agreement shall be deferred until January 4 1982.

3 The constituent parties of the RSNC accept the comments set out in Paragraph 190 of the RSNC Decision 75 regarding the continuation of negotiations on productivity issues and commit themselves to continue the progress that has already been made in the areas covered by Clauses 1(i), (ii) and (iii) of the 1980 Pay Agreement".

(3) The relevant terms of the 1980 Pay Agreement dealing with the shorter working week are as follows:

"(9) The Board accepts a commitment to reduce the standard working week of staff covered by the RSNC from the present levels of 40 hours for conciliation staff and 38 hours for salaried staff by the equivalent of one hour from November 1, 1981, providing this is done within the context of discussion of measures which will minimise the cost effect".

(4) Paragraph 190 of Decision 75 reads:

"We fully appreciate that given the financial and market constraints that press on the industry, adequate pay and conditions must continue to be dependent on what can be done to maintain and improve productivity. It has been made clear to us that the current proposals for productivity improvements were not before us as a tribunal and we were not asked to take them into account. Nevertheless, we were told by the board that their present offer is dependent on the understanding that negotiations on productivity will continue. Moreover, all parties have pointed out that already substantial progress has been made as a result of negotiations last year. We welcome this development, and hope that if our decision gains aceptance further and more substantial progress will be achieved".

(5) In addition to these two understandings, the parties also agreed a preamble which reads as follows:

"1 As a result of discussions held under the auspices of Acas on August 18, 19, and 20 August 1981, the RSNC has reached an understanding on pay. Stemming from Paragraph 190 of RSNT Decision No 75, a separate understanding has been reached on productivity. Copies of these understandings are attached.

2 In the event of there being any problem regarding the application of either of the two understandings, the RSNC may request the further assistance of Acas.

3 The three unions (Aslef, NUR and TSSA) will take immediate steps to recommend these understandings for ratification by their respective executives, following which the Aslef and NUR will countermand their decisions to call out their members as from August 31 1981."

As we understand it the origins of the present dispute lie in the fact that there is no universally acceptable view of the obligations incumbent on one or another of the parties as a result of these agreements. We have to state, therfore, what we understand to be the position of each of them, to the best of our ability.

The views of the parties

The Board's view is that all along they made clear their intention to regard their obligations under sub-paragraph 1 (ii) of the pay understanding as "conditional" on satisfactory "progress" in respect of the understanding on productivity.

They assert that although there was somewhat slow progress in the implementation of some other parts of the understanding, there is only one part where they are complaining about the rate of progress at the present time; that is, sub-paragraph 2(c) on (variable rostering hours within limits to be negotiated". And even here their complaint is one directed at the attitude of the Aslef.

The board charges the society with failing to negotiate — by which they mean that the Aslef has not been prepared to consider forms of flexible rostering which involve moves away from the existing agreement on the eight hour guaranteed day...

In effect the board is saying that its declared intention to make the payment of the additional 3 per cent conditional on satisfactory progress on productivity justified it in refusing to grant Aslef members either more pay or shorter working hours, until a satisfactory agreement can be reached.

However, the unions appearing before us do not accept that the board was justified in acting as it did. They stressed that the preamble to the understandings states that the productivity understanding was to be regarded as a "separate understanding" to that on wages.

It was true that reference was made, in paragraph 3 of the pay understanding to the terms of Paragraph 190 of RSNT Decision 75. But, say the unions, as set out above this does not justify linking the 3 per cent payment to further progress on productivity. Indeed, this was precisely why the board felt that they could not accept Decision 75 as it stood. It was to remove the threat of "conditionality" that both the NUR and the Aslef threatened strike action. Evidence of their success lies in the specific terms of both agreements, which nowhere require payment to be conditional on satisfactory progress under any specified heading...

Which brings us to the position of the Aslef itself. We have had to rely on the record of meetings of the RSNC and the RSJC (Loco) to gain our impression of their view....

The first point to make is that nothing has been placed before us to suggest that the society has formally renegued on the understandings reached with the assistance of Acas, which were endorsed by Aslef at the subsequent RSNC. What they have done is to suggest that their implementation, in the forms so far advanced by the board, gives rise to numerous difficulties and problems. These would involve changes in existing agreements and understandings that would not be acceptable to their members.

The most frequently raised problem seems to concern the implications for the existing agreement providing for a guaranteed payment of eight hours' pay — even where rostered hours are for less than this period. The society has taken the view that the abrogation of the guaranteed payment agreement in its present form would represent a worsening of conditions....

They have also argued that the specific examples of more flexible rostering placed before them suffer from practical defects; for example, they will require more administrative staff, create problems of "spare coverage" and be difficult to operate in periods affected by annual holidays. They are also said to be difficult to square with established practices relating to the "equalisations of earnings", and the protection of "sensible rest periods". Other problems raised include the "method of utilizing spare men" and the provision of special trains. On balance, say the Aslef, the board's proposals would produce "a considerable amount of chaos and might even result in the cancellation of services".

In any case, the societu argues that the board already has at its disposal considerable flexibility to vary the length and timing of rostered hours. For example, these can be moved two hours either way from day to day under existing agreements.

Finally, the society says that the introduction of the shorter working week, under the terms of the 1980 Pay Agreement, is "separate and apart" from the question of flexible rostering.

Yet once again, at least on our reading of these documents, the society has not wished to present its position as unremittingly negative and obstructive. Thus it has been prepared to discuss the limits of "a mutually acceptable definition of flexibility around the eight hour day" — that is in the terms set out in sub-paragraph 2(c). Our documents also suggest that it has asked that management consider "a more acceptable variance to that proposed".

Our own views

It seems to us that before we can make our recommendations for dealing with this dispute, we need to state our own views on four related issues:

(1) The relationship between the understandings on pay and productivity;

(2) The nature of the disagreement between Aslef and the board at the time when the board decided not to pay the 3 per cent;

(3) The board's decision and its consequences;

(4) The resources for settlement provided by the established machinery.

We accept that the board made it clear to the paties that it would not be possible to justify payment of the additional 3 per cent unless there was satisfactory progress on the implementation of the productivity understanding. In this sense it may be said to have made a statement of intent about its own future attitude.

But we also believe that the other parties made it clear that they did not share this view of the board's rights and obligations. They took their stand on the actual words in the two understandings and the preamble which preceded them.

On this matter it is clear to us that there is nothing in these agreements which makes the payment of the 3 per cent conditional on the Board's view that satisfactory progress had been achieved under a particular heading. In effect, the Board was not provided with a veto which they alone need interpret.

On the other hand, the two agreements are obviously related, in that they would not have been signed with each other. The productivity understanding was what the Board required before it would implement Decision 75. The unions agreed, because they wanted to secure the additional increase...

Our own view is that what has been agreed so far as a result of these separate but related understandings reflects credit on those involved; nothing in this report is intended to undermine or detract from what has been achieved.

Which brings us to the nature of the disagreement between the board and the Aslef. The stated view of the board is that sub-paragraph 2(c) involves and implies far-reaching changes in existing agreements and practices. They also take the view that its implementation is inextricably bound up with their proposals to move towards the shorter working week. What has been suggested has already been agreed with other grades — most notably in respect of guards. The board considers this practical and reasonable and agrees that it should be accepted in principle by the Aslef.

The Aslef view, as we understand it, does not seek to renege on the understandings of August, 1981, which they endorsed at the subsequent RSNC.

What it does is challenge the board's interpretation of them as they apply to footplate grades. In particular, their view seems to be that the implications of sub-paragraph 2(c) can be reconciled with existing agreements, including the introduction of the shorter working week as specified in the 1980 agreement and paragraph 2 of the understanding on pay.

We fully understand the board's viewpoint, and why it takes the view it does; what we feel is that within the context of its own commitment to improve productivity and contain costs the Aslef must be given an opportunity to make their case for an alternative solution in a forum where the board can rely on receiving a speedy and independent judgment on the differences between them.

But, given the present circumstances, it seems unreasonable and counter-productive to expect us to provide a definitive answer to the complex questions in the absence of the Aslef and in the middle of an industrial dispute which is causing great harm to the railway and inconvenience to the public. ... We feel that the best way out of the present problems is to find a means of utilizing the established machinery, bearing in mind the need to avoid unnecessary delay and safeguard the interests and agreements of all the parties.

We turn now to our attitude towards the board's decision not to pay the 3 per cent and its consequences. We feel that the best case that can be made for the board is that it had come to the conclusion that it was justified in acting as it did because Aslef was itself in breach of the productivity understanding.

The weakness of their position is, as the board's spokesman admitted, the pay understanding "was not conditional in the narrow technical sense on productivity being achieved, although it did include a very important clause referring to the continuance of negotiations..."

We find tht we connot agree that there were no unused resources within the established machinery when the board decided to withhold payment of the 3 per cent. As the other unions state, there could have been a formal failure to agree on the November 30 at the level of the RSJC (Loco) which was used to open the way to a further "declinature" at the subsequent RSNC.

This could have led to a reference to the RSNT under the terms of Paragraph 65(b) of the machinery. Any award made would not have been binding, but in our experience the record of the parties indicates that an RSNT report would have been considered seriously, and might well have offered the best way out of the current impasse.

Of course we understand why the board decided instead to invoke the aid of Axas, but when the Aslef refused to agree the established procedure could have been tried. On the other hand, it has been put to us that the Aslef is itself a party to the procedure, and that opportunities for further progression within the machinery were open to them also. Unfortunately we have not been able to put this point to them to obtain their response.

As it was the board decided to withhold the 3 per cent and the Aslef seems to have taken the view that until this decision was reversed they were not prepared to attend a meeting of the RSNC. As a result, the present dispute has escalated into a prolonged and damaging industrial conflict which we cannot believe that any of the parties either envisaged or desired. Our own view is that this was and is a disaster for the railway industry, but in the circumstances we do not feel it would help if we were to seek to apportion further blame.



Peer with a mind for disputes

McCarthy, the arbitrator

By Ian Bradley

Lord McCarthy has never made any secret of his support for the British labour and trade union movements.

His career owes much to trade union backing. He left school at 14 and worked in a men's outfitters and as a clerk in the Army before winning a scholarship to Ruskin College, Oxford, from his union, the old Clerical and Administrative Workers'.

Lord McCarthy has retained an Oxford connexion ever since. After Ruskin, he won a first in PPE at Merton, and he became a research fellow at Nuffield College in 1959. He is still a fellow of Nuffield and the Oxford Management Centre and holds a university lectureship in industrial relation. It is for his interventions in disputes, rather than his academic work, however, that Lord McCarthy is best known. He has been actively involved in industrial arbitration since 1968. He devised the formulas that ended the firemen's strike and the Post Office engineers' work-to-rule during the former Labour government.

Lord McCarthy has been chief arbitrator for the railways since 1973. In the view of many observers his period as chairman of the Railway Staff National Tribunal has been characterized by a rather too relaxed view of thef need to improve productivity.

The decision of his tribunal last summer to recommend a 10.5 per cent pay increase for all railwaymen surprised the British Rail management by its generosity. It plunged British Rail into the industrial relations crisis which has culminated in Aslef's present series of strikes.

Not all his decisions have been so favourable to the unions, however. In 1979, for example, he rejected a 10 per cent productivity payment demanded by Aslef and recommended only 5 per cent.

Lord McCarthy has always been a strong supporter of the Labour Party. He was a special adviser on industrial relations to Sir Harold Wilson's government and he led the attack on the present Government's Employment Act when it was going through the House of Lords.

He was ennobled in 1975. Both he and his wife are mainstays of the Oxford Labour Party.

Lord McCarthy's first book was a defence of the closed shop in Britain. His next will be on strikes in the country since the war.

The settlement proposals

The following proposals for a settlement were set out yesterday in Lord McCarthy's report:

The crux of our proposals lie in a reassertion of Aslef's commitment to the understanding of August, 1981, and a return to the established machinery in a form that will ensure a rapid, decisive settlement of the issues in dispute.

If a procedure to bring this about can be agreed between the parties, the Aslef should call off its industrial action and the board should agree to implement subparagraph 1(ii) of the pay understanding in respect of Aslef members, although the way in which the shorter working week is to be implemented in this case will have to wait on the outcome of the dispute on flexible rostering since it is the subject of contention between the parties.

To this end we recommend:

a) The Aslef should confirm its continued commitment to the understandings of August, 1981, as endorsed by the Railway Staff National Council: in specific terms subparagraph 2(c) of the productivity understanding and paragraph 2 of the understanding on pay, namely:

"c. Variable Rostering hours within limits to be negotiated. Negotiations shall take place to establish variations to the rostering agreements with a view to introducing some flexibility around the eight-hour day, but without producing unreasonable variation in the length of each working day or week. These discussions shall be concluded by 31 October, 1981."

"2. The introduction of the shorter working week provided for in paragraph 9 of the 1980 pay agreement shall be deferred until 4 January, 1982."

b) The parties should agree a procedure for dealing with the way in which subparagraph 2(c) of the productivity understanding is to be applied to locomotive grades. This should take the form set out below:

(i) First, there should be a meeting of the Railway Staff Joint Council (RSJC (Loco)) within seven days of the acceptance of our recommendations. At that meeting the board should present its proposals for implementing subparagraph 2(c) of the productivity understanding to footplate grades. Unless agreement can be reached on a means of implementing subparagraph 2(c) within seven days, or unless the RSJC (Loco) agrees to extend this period, a failure to agree should be recorded and arrangements made for a meeting of the RSNC within a further two days.

(ii) Second, unless at the meeting of the RSNC there is agreement on a means of implementing subparagraph 2(c), or the RSNC agrees to extend this period, a failure to agree should be recorded and arrangements made for reference to the RSNT.

Unless there is agreement to extend the period of consideration by either the RSJC (Loco) or the RSNC, the parties should agree to a hearing before the RSNT on one of the following dates: March 15, 16 or 19 1982.

As the parties are aware there are two alternative procedures for securing access to the RSNT. One of these involves paragraph 65(a) of the machinery and requires the parties o accept a binding award. We understand why the hoard, at one stage in this dispute, felt it could only cosent to invoke the aid of the RSNT by the use of this procedure. They would be free to argue for its use in this instance.

However, we cannot agree that this is the only way in which the established machinery can help. Therefore, if it is not possible to secure agreement to binding arbitration, use should be made of the normal avenue of advance to the RSNT, that is, by the use of paragraph 65(b). This would enable the board to refer the issues in dispute to the RSNT in a form prescribed below.

e) To help in this case we consider that it would be advisable for us to recommend to the parties a form in which the issues in dispute should be placed before the RSNT. Our recommendation is as follows:

"To ask the Railway Staff National Tribunal, established under appendix, part VI, to the agreement in regard to the machinery of negotiation for railway staff, dated May 28, 1956, to consider (under the appropriate paragraph) ... the proposals of the British Railways' Board for the implementation of subparagraph 2(c) of the 1981 productivity understanding to footplate staff and to award."

f) We have set out above a procedure for dealing with the way in which subparagraph 2(c) of the productivity understanding is to be applied to footplate staff. Given the agreement of the parties in dispute to this procedure, we recommend that two things should happen: The Aslef should agree to call off all forms of industrial action and return to normal working. At the same time the board should agree to implement paragraph 1(ii) of the pay understanding.

£33m spent in tracing benefit swindlers

By Anthony Bevins
Political Correspondent

The Government spent more than £33m last year in tracking down people who were fraudulently drawing social security benefits, according to government estimates.

But the irrecoverable fraud losses of £4,234,561 in 1980-81, partly reported to Parliament by Sir Geoffrey Otton, the Second Permanent Secretary at the Department of Health and Social Security, were not the total figure, more remains untraced.

Mr Barry Sheerman, Labour MP for Huddersfield, East, has been told by the Minister for Social Security, Mr Hugh Roasi, that there were an estimated 2,250 officials engaged in specialist fraud duties at the end of last year.

The cost of salaries amounted to £18.1m and other costs, including superannuation, accommodation and travelling expenses, were put at £15.3m for the year.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, then Secretary of State for Social Services, told the Commons last May that the employment of an additional 1,050 specialists on social security fraud and abuse had saved the Government an estimated £40m in 1980-81. He also said: "In total, DHSS staff working in this field, who number about 5,600, saved the taxpayer and the contributor some £170m during 1980-81."

Cash lost "due to irrecoverable overpayments". made because of fraud, given by Sir Geoffrey for 1980-81 in the year's official Appropriation Accounts. amounts to £3,626,485 in supplementary benefit, £125,058 in family benefits and £48,863 in pensions.

Employment Department figures for irrecoverable benefit fraud losses, which are not published, give a provisional estimate of £434,155 for 1980-81

No figures are provided on the amount of money recovered, but the department counters any attempt to compare the outlay of £33m with the £4m net loss by pointing out that the "write-off" bears no relationship "to the total size of the fraud and abuse problem".

An undated memorandum from the Secretary of State, in the House of Commons library, says that the £4m relates only to fraud, "and not to abuse such as voluntary unemployment".

It says that the £4m relates only to discovered fraud, "not to the total loss to public funds".

Finally, it has no regard to the benefit that would have been paid if our specialists had not detected and stopped the fraud. Hence the figure of £4m is irrelevant to the question of how much effort should be put into tackling fraud and abuse.



Mr Barry Sheerman, given the fraud figures

CHEAPER METRO LAUNCHED

By Our Motoring Correspondent

The success of Ford's basic Fiesta model, the Popular, has prompted BL to launch a cheaper version of the Metro. Called the Metro City, it costs £3,250 and goes on sale today.

The car is £5 cheaper than the Fiesta Popular and nearly £200 below the price of the present basic Metro model. BL predicts that the Metro City will account for up to 15 per cent of total Metro sales.

It is powered by a 998cc engine and gives more than 38 miles a gallon in town driving.

Science report

Dietary control of side-effect of cancer

By the Staff of "Nature"

It may eventually be possible to treat a serious side-effect of some cancer cases by simple dietary means if the results of a series of experiments on an animal model of cancer are relevant to the human disease.

The experiments show tat the elevated levels of calcium in the blood of tumour-carrying rabbits are the result of increased intestinal absorption of dietary calcium, and can be prevented by the use of a low calcium.

Until now it has been widely believe that increased calcium levels in cancer are the result either of secondary tumours in bones or of the secretion by tumours of substances that cause the destruction of bones. For example, there is strong evidence that the fatal increase in the concentration of calcium in the blood of rabbits with the experimental tumour known as VX₂ is the result of secretion of a prostaglandin by the tumour.

That idea, however, is overturned in studies by Dr Samuel Doppelt and Professor John Potts and their colleagues at Harvard Medical School and the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

The original aim of Dr Doppelt and his colleagues was to discover the degree to which an inhibitor of prostaglandins could control the blood calcium levels of rabbits carrying VX_2 tumours.

For thirty days the animals were treated with the supposed inhibitor, but without effect. Consequently half of them were switched to a diet that was essentially free of calcium. Within four days their blood calcium levels had become normal.

To confirm their unexpected results Dr Doppelt and his colleagues first carried out similar experiments with a different inhibitor of prostaglandins, then with mice in place of rabbits. In all cases the tumours caused a severe increase in the concentration of calcium in the blood, which was controlled by calcium-free diets, but not by the inhibitors.

Dr Doppelt and his colleagues conclude that VX_2 tumours probably secrete a substance which increases the intestinal absorption of dietary calcium to a minimum.

It remains to be seen whether that result will hold true for any forms of human cancer and, if so, whether a calcium-free diet will cause more problems than it will prevent.

Source: *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, vol 79, p 640, 1982.*

BLACKMAIL BROTHERS ARE JAILED

From Our Correspondent
Southampton

The sons of a former Governor General and Chief Justice of Sierra Leone were sent to prison yesterday for three years for demanding money with menaces from Lady Milton, the sister of Mr Airey Neave, the MP who was killed by an Irish terrorist bomb in 1979.

Mr Justice Sheldon at Winchester Crown Court also recommended that Chadwick and Mervin Bailor should be deported after serving their sentences.

Chadwick Bailor, aged 24, of Landor Road, Clapham, South London, and Mervin Bailor, aged 30, of Sir Francis Chichester Way, Battersea, South London, the sons of Sir Banja Tejan-Sie, both pleaded not guilty.

During the four-day trial the court was told that Chadwick Bailor persuaded his brother to telephone Lady Milton at her home in Somerset last September, and demand £2,000.

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Parents' say in curriculum backed by MPs

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

Rationalization of the school curriculum and a greater say for parents in the education of their children are recommended by the Commons Select Committee on Education and Science in its report on the school provision for pupils aged 14 to 16, published yesterday.

Mr Christopher Price, chairman of the all-party committee, said their report was "the first comprehensive survey of the secondary school curriculum and its legal framework since the passing of the Education Act, 1944, nearly forty years ago".

In the 150-page, wide-ranging report, the committee says it is convinced of the need to take stock. Confusing and conflicting pressures had produced a secondary curriculum which seemed to have unclear targets. The system generated for children in different schools quite significant inequalities of opportunity.

There were particular problems for children who moved from one area to another. The diversity of curricula left many parents and employers uncertain what to expect. Too many options had been introduced. The curriculum needed to be pruned and planned as a coherent, balanced package for each child.

The committee recommends that the new regulations requiring each school to publish information for parents be amended to lay down a requirement that such information include an explicit statement of the school's curricular aims together with details of what it offered.

It proposes a set of model principles to which the governors, and through them the head and staff of each school, should have regard in drawing up curriculum plans.

The first of those principles, should, in the words of section 76 of the Education Act, be that "so far as is compatible with the provision of efficient instruction and training and the avoidance of unreasonable public expenditure, pupils are to be educated in accordance with the wishes of their parents".

The second, it suggests, drawing on section 8 of the Act, should be that "all pupils have opportunities offering such variety of instruction and training as may be desirable in view of their different ages, abilities and aptitudes".

On discipline, the committee recommends that the school head, staff and governors, including parent governors, should be free to determine the disciplinary policy and practice of their own school.

As reported in *The Times* earlier this month, the committee calls for the Education Act to be amended to give the Secretary of State clear powers to intervene where a "nationally agreed (educational) provision appears to be at risk".

However, the committee failed to make clear at its press conference yesterday who would decide what that nationally agreed provision should be, or how it would be guaranteed.

□ The normally moderate, mildly-spoken Secondary Heads Association, which includes the heads of most of the top public schools and maintained secondary schools, has written a letter of criticism to Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, bemoaning the apparent impotence, dilatoriness and lack of vision of his department.

Mr Donald Frish, secretary of the association, says he feels an increasing sense of exasperation about the whole educational scene.

The Secondary school curriculum and examinations, with special reference to the 14 to 16 year age group, House of Commons Paper 116-1 (Stationery Office, £7).



Policemen and pickets struggling yesterday outside the gates of the Laurence Scott factory, in Openshaw, Greater Manchester.

Pickets and drivers clash in dawn raid on factory

Trouble flared outside the closed Laurence Scott factory, in Manchester, yesterday when the owners moved in to take away machinery from the besieged plant. Two people were arrested, and later bound over to keep the peace, as stones and bottles were thrown at a convoy of lorries after a barmen had ringed the electro-motors factory in Openshaw, which closed last April with the loss of 650 jobs.

About eighty pickets were present when the lorries arrived soon after dawn. Missiles were thrown and one of the lorries, which were driven by non-union workers.

Before dawn about a dozen workmen with pneumatic drills and hammers had torn down a concrete barrier blocking the plant's main entrance. It was believed to have been put up some rier across the main gates was pulled down. More than 100 police-time ago by people sympathetic to the workers. The police kept pickets away while the barrier was being torn down.

Last night the police began a 24-hour guard on the factory to allow the management to remove the machinery. The work may last up to 10 days.

Cannabis found in a car

Ex-secret agent jailed for drugs smuggling

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Howard Marks, sometime agent for MI6, pleaded guilty at the Central Criminal Court yesterday to his part in an international cannabis smuggling group in the early 1970s and was sentenced to three years' imprisonment.

Last autumn, Mr Marks, aged 36, of west London, was found not guilty of being the British mainstay of a plan to import 15 tons of cannabis into Britain from South America, but he was jailed for two years for charges involving false passports.

Yesterday Mr John Rodgers, QC, prosecuting, said six loads of cannabis hidden in sound equipment for pop groups was sent to the United States in 1973, but the seventh cargo was discovered. Mr Marks pleaded guilty yesterday after his counsel had asked the court earlier to consider a plea of autre fois convict acquit, which Mr James Miskin, the Recorder of London, rejected.

It was argued that Mr Marks had already been partly acquitted and partly convicted on the same offence by a Dutch court in 1975 in his absence. He was found guilty of possessing 42 kilos of cannabis left in a car, but not guilty of possessing 400 kilos.

Yesterday the Recorder told Mr Marks that he had acted out of greed and "a total insensitivity to the misfortunes of the ultimate users".

In fact, Mr Marks will be released shortly. Mr Bernard Simmonds, his solicitor, said afterwards that the sentence would be served concurrently with the sentence for the false passport offences and that sentence took into account Mr Marks had been held on remand since his arrest in May 1980. His sentence for the passport offence ended five days after he was convicted last November and he had been held since for yesterday's case.

A tangled world of cannabis and spying

Dennis Howard Marks, described by friends as a charming rogue fascinated by wealth and intrigue, has over the past 10 years gone from research studies at Oxford to partnership ith one of Americas's largest drug organizations, to work for MI6 against the Provisional IRA.

Last year he was acquitted of being the British mainstay of a transatlantic organization which shipped 15 tons of cannabis into Britain. Yesterday he pleaded guilty at the Central Criminal Court to his part in a conspiracy to smuggle thousands of pounds worth of cannabis into the United States in a separate operation many years earlier, which had no connexion with last year's case.

In the trial last year the Crown conceded that Marks was used by MI6 in 1973. At that trial a Mexican was called in Marks's defence and although the man's credentials could not be checked American sources have told *The Times* that he did work for the Mexican Government.

A gregarious man, Marks, now aged 36, comes from solid Welsh middle-class stock. He won a scholarship to Balliol College, Oxford, to read physics, and took an honours degree. He worked for a higher degree at Sussex University and then returned to Oxford.

At the beginning of the 1970s Marks was still at Oxford, drifting through jobs. He became director of a dress shop in Oxford called Annabelinda, but the shop was only part of a much wider life.

At Oxford he had been friendly with another undergraduate, who was later suspected of drug dealing between Britain, the United States and Ireland. The man was also believed to be sympathetic to the Provisional IRA.

Through his former student colleague, Marks met a man called James O'Neill in Amsterdam, which in the early 1970s was the great drug entrepot for Europe. The man's real name was James McCann, a Provisional IRA activist who in 1971 became the first man to escape from Crumlin Road prison, Belfast, in 20 years while awaiting trial on a fire bomb charge.

MI6 and the Dutch police were taking a keen interest in Mr McCann, nicknamed The Fox, who lived a flamboyant life in Holland and was suspected of running arms to Northern Ireland.

According to Marks, another of his former Oxford contemporaries appeared in 1972 with a great interest in McCann's activities. Hamilton McMillan had played the piano in a Balliol show organized by Marks, but now he worked for the Foreign Office. Marks said he was recruited to spy on McCann.

Meanwhile, Marks became part of the European end of a plan to smuggle cannabis to the United States for the Brotherhood of Eternal Love.

The smuggling method was simple, but effective. Hashish was hidden inside sound equipment for rock'n'roll bands said to be touring Europe. The equipment was sent to Europe, packed with drugs and then shipped to the United States.

In November, 1973, Marks was interviewed by Dutch detectives in Amsterdam and returned to Britain, where he was charged, with a number of others, by customs officers. On April 19 he disappeared.

By 1975 Marks, with a false passport, was back in Britain. Yesterday it was said that he took a false identity because the publicity surrounding his disappearance and possible links with MI6 might endanger him.

Heseltine aid for high spenders

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, has changed the basis on which local authorities are judged to have exceeded the expenditure targets set by his department in a way that may enable some of the high-spending authorities to escape the penalty of a cut in their rate support grant.

The High Court ruled last October that he had acted unlawfully in cutting the rate support grant of six London boroughs. The judges quashed the decision to abate the grant on the grounds that the Secretary of State had failed to listen to new representations from the authorities concerned.

As a result of the new dispensations, announced in the Commons yesterday during a debate on various rate support grant orders, it may be that some of those six authorities will be able to avoid the penalties originally imposed.

Mr Heseltine told the House that he had carefully considered representations and he still intended to reduce the amount of grant payable in 1980-81 to those authorities whose adjusted uniform rate exceeded 155p and whose expenditure did not qualify for a waiver. However, he had decided to modify the condition for waivers, and performances would be recalculated.

Cut Ulster job-finding cost, Rayner says

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

A confidential Whitehall report recommends an 18 per cent cut in the budget for Ulster's Employment Service, with a general rundown in the job-finding facilities offered to the province's 113,000 unemployed.

The study, carried out under the guidance of Sir Derek Rayner, the Prime Minister's adviser on Whitehall waste and efficiency, is said to have excited Mrs Margaret Thatcher's "particular interest".

But with Northern Ireland unemployment running at about 20 per cent, and with the Cabinet expected to decide tomorrow the fate of the 1,500 remaining jobs at the De Lorean Motor Company, in Belfast, the political repercussions of the report could far outweigh the saving of £1.4m a year.

It was emphasized last night that no decisions had yet been taken on the report; but its authors pointed out that the general philosophy behind their conclusions "may be of interest to those involved in similar activities in Great Britain".

It is stated that the main function of the Employment Service "is to satisfy the employment needs of individual workers seeking jobs and of individual employers seeking workers".

In 1980, with 600 staff working through 27 main offices, the service placed 23,000 people. The Rayner inquiry, headed by a principal from the Civil Service Department, calculated that with refined figures on employment activities, there was an average cost a placing of about £175.

But after an intricate examination of the need for the service to start with, an exercise which was "regarded as unnecessary by some of those consulted", it was decided that there were a number of serious grounds for coplain.

The report states: "The activities of the service have been directed in recent years towards achieving a larger and better share of the labour market; even to the extent of competing with other means of recruitment.

"The economic justification for this approach by a publicly financed body is slender."

It is suggested that the 5,000 "marketing or development" visits to employers in search of jobs are not cost-effective, but the two main economies of the report came from conclusions reached of review interviews and compulsory registration, which it is recommended should both be scrapped.

The report recommends that the law should be changed to bring in voluntary registration with a system similar to one being proposed for Britain.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Edwardes threat to BL strikers

The BL board will on Friday consider closing down the company's vehicles plants at Leyland and Bathgate if the protest strikes against redundancies at the two factories are not called off by mass meetings (our Labour Correspondent writes).

That was made clear in a hand-written letter from BL's chairman, Sir Michael Edwardes, delivered to the offices of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers yesterday as the executive of the union, the biggest in the Leyland group, met to consider the breakdown of peace talks on Monday.

The AUEW executive promised to continue formal backing if the strikes continued, but is at the same time ensuring that the contents of Sir Michael's note are put to the mass meetings at the Lancashire and Scottish plants tomorrow and Friday.

The letter is also being distributed to all national union officers.

Heathrow men continue dispute

British Airways ramp workers yesterday voted unanimously to continue their protest action against the imposition of new work rosters and to increase the number of pickets at Heathro Airport.

The workers decided not to begin picketing overseas flights again until today. That could give British Airways time to organize more volunteers to load baggage and provide catering for their big jets on long haul flights. On Saturady, baggage loaders and caterers refused to cross picket lines.

Rampton admits jailed woman

Mrs Brenda Baker, aged 49, a mentally subnormal woman with three convictions for arson, was readmitted to Rampton Hospital yesterday after a month in prison, despite objections by the Department of Health and Social Security.

In January Judge David, QC, senior circuit judge for Chester and North Wales, jailed her for 28 days because the Merseyside health authorities refused to take responsibility for her.

Thorpe meets Amnesty staff

Mr Jeremy Thorpe, the former Liberal leader and new director designate of the British section of Amnesty International, met his new staff yesterday. He described them as "very friendly and very receptive".

Provincial police get more cash

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

The Government sought to lessen the prospect of cuts in spending on key provincial police forces yesterday by switching more money to them.

The decision was greeted with caution by the Labour-controlled Association of Metropolitan Authorities which was worried that the money available, £13m, would not be enough to meet authorities' needs. Mr Edwin Shore, chairman of the West Midlands Police Authority, one of the worst affected by the government squeeze, said: "Any help, however small, will make a difference. No one wants to see the police budget cut. It is too important for that".

Mr Heseltine said in the Commons that the position of police authorities outside London would be improved by the news yesterday that the rate precept of the Metropolitan Police would be based on a budget approved by the Home Secretary providing for total spending of £325m in 1982-83, which was about £13m lower than estimated.

The Departmentt of the Environment said that the £13m would be available to forces outside London.

The move is in response to complaints from the AMA that the Government had increased the approved expenditure for the Metropolitan Police by 24 per cent, compared with an increase for other forces of 3.4 per cent. Five thousand jobs were threatened in six key regional forces, according to the AMA.

In the House Mr Heseltine said he had shown his willingness to be flexible, but that was not what a deputation from the West Midlands said after seeing him last week

He acknowledged that the local authorities had been set tough targets, but the Government attached priority to law and order and had given its costs priority.

The Metropolitan Police said yesterday that its precept had been raised mainly because of pay and price rises, more police officers on the strength, and the cost of civil disorders.

The precept for 1982-83 would be 18.05p in the pound, compared with 15.35p in 1981-82.

Laker rival leases two DC-10s

By David Hewson

Two of Laker Airway's 380-seat DC-10 aircraft will be back in the air in April, crewed largely by former Laker staff and flying under the flag of British Caledonian.

The firm has reached agreement with the Laker receiver for the lease of the two aircraft during the summer for £1m. The move has saved Britain's smaller package holiday companies from a scramble for plane seats.

The two aircraft were committed to a summer holiday programme to the Mediterranean which would have carried about 175,000 passengers, most of them from small tour firms. British Caledonian's agreement will involve the charter of the aircraft to the tour company, Owner Services Ltd, and the air brokers, Viking International, acting on behalf of a group of 44 other holiday operators.

Mr Alastair Pugh, managing director of British Caledonian, said yesterday: "We are delighted that we will be able to provide the flights to ensure that the summer holiday arrangements of 45 United Kingdom tour companies will operate as planned".

The aircraft will be repainted in British Caledonian's colours for the period of the charter, which runs from April until the end of October, but will still be for sale, in the unlikely event that a buyer for them materializes. The charter will provide temporary work for about 120 people.

British Caledonian has also applied to the Civil Aviation Authority for permission to take over Laker's licence to fly from Gatwick to Los Angeles.

Sir Freddie Laker yesterday continued meetings in the City about his plans for a "People's Airline."

□ Sir Freddie has stopped underwriting new business at Lloyd's, the London insurance market supported by wealthy individuals

He will remain a member of Lloyd's, but in a letter to his underwriting agents, Newgreen, he said that "in view of his considerable financial problems and bearing in mind Lloyd's continuing means test requirements he felt it only right to cease underwriting".

'Times' unions consider court actions

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

The National Union of Journalists is considering making a legal challenge to the decision by the board of Times Newspapers Ltd, to transfer the titles of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* to News International, its parent company.

The NUJ is understood to have consulted the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel, the union most directly affected by planned cuts at the two newspapers on the move. It is expected to meet counsel today with a view to seeking a High Court injunction to prevent Mr Rupert Murdoch, chairman of News International, going ahead with any liquidation of Times Newspapers Ltd, as a result of failure to reach agreement with the unions on the job cuts proposed.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher declined yesterday to intervene in the controversy over the titles when asked by Mr Geoffrey Rippon, Conservative MP for Hexham, to consider setting up an inquiry into the circumstances and effects of transferring the titles.

Mr Rippon asked the Prime Minister to seek an assurance from Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, that there had been no "breach of the letter or the spirit of the undertakings given by Mr Murdoch in January last year".

The Prime Minister replied: "It looks as if the legal situation is very complex. As there is more than one view upon it, I am therefore not the person, as Mr Rippon, the Right Honourable and learned gentleman knows, to pronounce on a legal matter. The Secretary of State is of course looking into it to see whether or not the law has been upheld".

The NUJ's national officer for Fleet Street would only say last night: "We are exploring all avenues. We would, however, much prefer sensible negotiations against a sensible timetable."

Meanwhile News International yesterday disclosed that the titles of the four *Times* supplements had not been transferred with those of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*. Mr Arthur Brittenden, corporate relations director of News International, said that they remained in the ownership of TNL.

Chapel (office branch) officers of Natsopa, from which 390 redundancies have been sought, said last night that 48 applications for redundancy had so far been received from the clerical chapels at the two papers.

PARLIAMENT February 16 1982

Heseltine claims rate targets can be met

LOCAL FINANCE

While the majority of local authorities had shown that the financial policies he had advocated were reasonalble and could be achieved, Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretarty of state for the Environment, said there was still a minortity of councils determined to try to frustrate Government policies.

He was seeking for approval of the Rate Support Grant Increase Order 1982, the Rate Support Grant Supplementary Report (England) 1982 and the Rate Support Grant (England), 1982—83.

Of a total of 413 local authorities, 279 were budgetting to spend within 2 per cent of the reduced level and these were not confined to any particular class of authority. They were 31 per cent of shire counties, 69 per cent London boroughs, 47 per cent of metropolitan districts and 77 per cent of shire districts.

Today (he said) the onus is on high spending authorities to prove why they cannot do what the majority are doing and no longer on me to prove it is possible.

The fact that so many authorities are now demonstrating that with sensible manpower and recruitment policies savings can be made, demonstrates again the reasonableness of what I asked for. But though the shift is happening, it is late in the day and unless the pace of the last quarter is maintained, is still below the level needed overall to meet the current spending targets.

Instead of an overall reduction in real terms in current spending, there was a budgeted cash overspend of perhaps £1,300m this year. While the upward spiral had been stopped, thanks to the minority the direction had not yet been reversed.

I have therefore decided (he said) that I must confirm the withholding of £200m from the 1980-81 rate support grant and it is for this reason that the first order for which approval is sought today provides only an additional £84m grant. This increase is mainly for increased loan charges in that year.

Last October the Divisional Court — while holding he exercised his discretion to abate the grant of six London authorities on valid considerations — quashed the decision on the grounds that he had not been prepared to receive representation from the authorities concerned after November 1980.

He had now carefully considered representations by authorities and had decided to reduce the amount of grant payable in respect of 1980/81 to authorities whose adjusted uniform rate exceeded 155p, and whose expenditure did not qualify for a waiver.

To that extent, the decision was the same as the one he had announced last year. But he had decided to modify the conditions for waivers.

Authorities that did not gain a waiver on the basis announced last year would have their performances recalculated using outturn figures and appropriate re-pricing factors and with urban programme expenditure excluded from the calculation. Those modifications might enable some of the affected authorities to achieve a waiver and gain exemption from grant abatement. But he did not yet know if that would be the case.

The main supplementary report for 1982/83 dealt with paying out £11,500m of grant, provided by the taxpayer, to over 400 authorities.

He was proposing an increase to £18,000m for the planned expenditure next year. This was a 2.8 per cent increase over revised budgets for this year.

The Government's estimate was that, given the cash planning factors of 4 per cent for pay and 9 per cent for other costs, local government overall needed to make a 3.2 per cent real terms reduction from the level of this year's budgets. This was a tough challenging but realistic target for local government.

The Government had decided that as a further means of keeping up pressure on the financing plans of local government it was fair for a higher percentage of those plans to be financed at the local level, especially given his acceptance of a higher level of overall spend. For that reason he had reduced the rate of grant from 59.1 per cent to 56.1 per cent.

In cash terms that meant the Government would provide a total of £11,500m in 1982/83 — an increase of over £500m in cash on last year's settlement.

To underline the equitable nature of the new targets the Government had built in two constraints. No authority was being asked for more than a 7 per cent real terms reduction from the lower of its original or revised budget for 1981/82, although if an authority increased budgeted expenditure during the year, against the Government's policy, it would be expected to take a larger reduction to offset that increase.

For authorities spending less than their volume target and grant related expenditure assessment the maximum real reduction would be 1 per cent.

After discussion with local authority associations the Government had made a number of changes to the housing assessment this year. On rents they assumed an average weekly increase of £2.50. Where that increase resulted in a national surplus on housing revenue account, the grant related expenditure assessment was not, like last year, to be a minus figure. It was being set at zero.

The settlement was realistic, fair and achievable. Provided expenditure targets were met he expected metropolitan areas outside London to retain broadly the same share of the grant total they had received in recent years — between 29 and 30 per cent. For 1982-83 he was giving London the prospect of an improvement in their grant share if expenditure targets were met. That was an opportunity for London.

He had never made a secret of his view that there should be more investment in the inner cities, but they could not make a move until the stranglehold of the increasing current consumption was lessened.

The position of police authorities outside London would be improved by the news today that the precept of the Metropolitan Police would be based on a budget approved by the Home Secretary providing for a total expenditure of £325m in 1982-83 which was about £13m lower that had been estimated.

Some authorities had made the point that the statistical base was out of date. Next year the census results would be coming on stream and they would be incorporated in the figures next year.

Instead of leading an inflationary cycle (he said) I want to see the local government sector leading a downward trend. The success or otherwise of that trend will be reflected in the rates bills of individual councils.

Every councillor now taking decisions had an essential role in the strategy for beating inflation. Decisions taken by local government affected every family's budget but also affected industrial ratepayers.

Heseltine: Fair deal

Kaufman: Councils punished

Inner cities hardest hit by settlement

Mr Gerald Kaufman, Opposition spokesman on the environment (Manchester, Ardwick, Lab), said Mr Heseltine had reduced the level of grant from 51.1 per cent to 56.1 per cent, but had not indicated what that meant in money.

In constant prices the Secretary of State had reduced the block grant for the coming year by £827m - a reduction of 8.7 per cent. Worst hit of all were the inner cities.

Mr Heseltine would be reducing the housing subsidies by another £427m. That meant that local authorities were going to have to find another £1,125m simply to maintain services and employment at their present levels. Even if they did make massive cuts the reduction in rate support grant would still mean greatly increased rates and precepts.

That was apart from the Government's insistence that local authorities should calculate their budgets on an assumption of pay settlements of 4 per cent when settlements to date had been well above that level, and of 9 per cent inflation when it was running at a constant 12 per cent.

Rates were going to go up substantially directly as a result of this rate support grant settlement.

Local authorities were being denied grant because of shortcomings in compiling their grant-related expenditure assessments or by mistakes of the Department of the Environment computer, or their two computer systems which kept a watchful eye on each other but sometimes succeeded simply in doubling the mistakes.

Authorities would also lose grant as a result of the additional income they obtained from selling council houses. What was more, the greater number of council houses they sold the more grant they would lose.

They were also punished because the Secretary of State would not let them build new houses to replace those that he was forcing them to sell.

Mr Heseltine had let off with cautions 61 out of the 175 local authorities who had failed to do as they were told. This left 114 authorities cowering in anticipation of Mr Heseltine's hold back penalties, but the lash had not fallen. Grant had not been docked.

He had discovered that the hold-back operation was illegal. He had been taken to court once already by local authorities from whom he had withheld grant unlawfully. He was not prepared to risk being labelled a wrong-doer by another set of judges.

A clause of the Local Government Finance (No. 2) bill currently before Parliament was intended to clarify the powers under which such a scheme could be operated. In Heseltine language, clarify meant to retrospectively make lawful that which was unlawful (Labour laughter).

Mr Heseltine, who lectured local authorities about the need to conduct themselves lawfully had been conducting himself unlawfully since last June.

If he were not a Minister of Crown (he said) with an obedient majority ready to bail him out, he would by now be helping police with their inquiries. (Renewed laughter).

The Sunday Times had revealed details of the deep secrets of the almost occult Cabinet meeting held a fortnight ago to discuss the issue — a meeting so secret that only several journalists obtained full details.

It showed that Mr Heseltine was being forced to bring to the Commons proposals in which he did not believe, just as he had before been forced to attempt to tame local authorities by local referendums, a policy which he thought was wrong and unpopular; and which proved to be so and had to be withdrawn.

To vote with the Opposition against the wretched, illogical, unfair and mean-minded RSG settlements would only appear to be a public humiliation for Mr Heseltine — in fact it would be a private triumph for him.

Mr Jack Carlisle (Runcorn, C) said there had to be an attack on spendthrift local councils and the only criticism of the Government so far could be that the attacks had not been strong enough.

He did not accept the argument that it was possible to exclude education from cuts, particularly as it took four times as much money as any other local authority service. Of course it was vital the country should have the best possible education service but it would be of no benefit to schoolchildren if the country was to spend more than they could afford on education and leave them facing even greater economic problems in the future.

There was a case for considering the transfer of a greater proportion of education expenditure to central government. That could be achieved by payment of teachers' salaries or giving local authorities a specific block grant for education in line with the grant related expenditure for the area.

Mr Stephen Ross (Isle of Wight, L) said his greatest complaint about the Government was its continual denigration of local government, almost all of which was undeserved. If the Government wanted people to give up time and serve on local authorities it was not going about it the right way.

There was nothing wrong with efficiently managed public services. Some public services were extremely well run and would not be improved by privatization as advocated by Conservatives.

He was concerned at the progressive erosion in local government sovereignty in the name of government macro-economic control.

Mr Nicholas Lyell (Hemel Hempstead, C) said nobody could fail to realize the importance of controlling the consistent over-spending which had to be tackled.

Mr John McWilliam (Blaydon, Lab) said in Tyne and Wear, a small metropolitan county, the result of pinching education expenditure last year, and the continued pressure on it this year, was that young people in an area with youth unemployment of over 50 per cent were unable to take further education courses.

Protests at licensing of sex shops

HOUSE OF LORDS

Many peers would like to be rid of sex shops entirely, Lord Belstead, Under-secretary of State, Home Office, said in moving the second reading of the local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, which has passed the Commons. However,j that wouldjhave to be done as a matter of the general law relating to obscenity and allied matters.

In this bill the Govenment sought to provide local authorities with a substantial measure of control over these premises. In particular it had been proposed that local authorities should have control over numbers.

Provided a local authourity directed its mind to a particular application and the cirumstances of the area to which the application related there was no reason under these proposals why the authority should not be able to conclude, if ii thought it appropriate, that the area ought not to have any sex shops at all.

He understood the concern which had been expressed that licensing arrangements might appear to condone the activities of these establishments. The Bill did not make lawful anything that was at present unlawful. If granted, a licence would signify no more than that the local authority had approved the general use of the premises under the control of the Bill's provisions.

The government was considering whether it could go some way to meet the anxiety expressed in the Commons about appearing to condone the sale of items that encouraged sexual violence and cruelty. It would see if it could achieve its objectives by the use of a formula which was less open than the definitions in the bill to understandable objection.

Lady Birk, for the Opposition, said local authority powers to put conditions on permits for amusement centres or arcades should be strengthened. More recently there had been the eruption of space machines. Powers were needed to control space invaders machines. More and more children were spending more and more time and money on them.

To license establishments specializing in the sale of sex material bothered some MPs, and would doubtless bother some peers, because it gave an aura, an equivalent of a good housekeeping seal of approval or a ministerial version of a royal warrant. She would prefer the word permit instead. It had a less encouraging sound.

Lord Evans of Claughton (L) said he found sex shops and sex cinemas wholly distasteful. But if legislation was based on what he as a middle aged solicitor found distasteful, legislation would all be puritan and restrictive in terms of modern society.

The Bishop of London, Dr Graham Leonard, generally welcomed the Bill. He deplored wholly the existence of sex shops and sex cinemas because they conveyed and fed upon the debased and inhuman attitude to sex.

Sex establishments must be controlled but this could be done in a way that made clear that it was to be control of something undesirable

The Bill was read a second time.

Split polls offer little comfort to main parties in republic

From Richard Ford, Dublin

IRISH ELECTION

The two main political parties in the Irish Republic were offered little comfort yesterday with publication of opinion polls that were divided over the likely winner of the general election to be held tomorrow.

A poll in *The Irish Times* gave Fianna Fail a 5 per cent lead and a poll in *The Irish Independent* gave a similar lead to the Fine Gael-Labour coalition.

But they were agreed that Dr Garret FitzGerald, the Prime Minister and leader of Fine Gael, is still far ahead of Mr Charles Haughey, leader of Fianna Fail, in personal popularity, and the polls were unanimous that voters saw unemployment as the main issue.

Taking margins of error into account however, observers believe that the coalition and Fianna Fail are running neck and neck, which made last night's live television debate between the two leaders crucial.

Despite almost three weeks of campaigning on the issue of a tough budget, Fine Gael's vote is holding firm, although the party must be disappointed that Dr FitzGerald's enormous popularity has not brought the party a bigger swing in support.

It is being remembered that in 1973, when Mr Jack Lynch, who was then Prime Minister, was very popular, his party lost the election and Mr Liam Cosgrave was able to form a coalition government.

The Opposition is taking votes not from Fine Gael but, as expected, from the independents and Labour, the Achilles heel of the coalition, which on the polls' findings are likely to lose more support and seats.

The poll in *The Irish Times,* conducted at the weekend after Fianna Fail unveiled its Budget proposals but before they had been subjected to a fierce attack by the Government, reflects a trend of support to the Opposition. It gives it 47 per cent, against a Fine Gael-Labour total of 42 per cent, with 4 per cent supporting other candidates and 7 per cent undecided.

Dr FitzGerald has increased his lead over his rival, with 56 per cent wanting him as Prime Minister, while just a third would prefer Mr Haughey. The Leader of the Opposition, whose popularity as head of his party has improved by just 3 per cent in the course of the campaign, can take some satisfaction from the poll.

Realizing that a presidential-style campaign would harm the party, Fianna Fail has emphasized its team, which is seen by the voters as better than the Government. And the voters agree with Mr Haughey that unemployment and prices are the main issues.

Reducing government spending, the Budget, and a stable Administration have dropped in importance compared with the results of a poll taken at the end of the first week of the campaign. That indicates the Mr Haughey has had some success in widening the debate and putting across the bread-and-butter message about jobs and prices.

His party is now seen as being the best one to tackle unemployment, prices and, crucially, the Budget, and the ruling coalition is ahead only on handling Northern Ireland, pensions, social welfare, and reducing the government debt.

If Dr FitzGerald is defeated tomorrow it may be because he failed to widen the ground on which he was fighting and allowed Fianna Fail to take the initiative and hammer away at rising unemployment, now standing at 147,500, and soaring inflation.

The poll in *The Irish Independent,* taken last Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, gives the coalition 49 per cent, Fianna Fail 44 per cent, with 8 per cent for Labour, and 7 per cent for others.

Anti-police training of youth

PM'S QUESTIONS

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, is to ask for an investigation into allegations that the Workers' Revolutionary Party in Merseyside trained young people in anti-police methods without the knowledge of public figures in Merseyside whose names were originally used in support of the scheme.

Mr David Steel, the Leader of the Liberal Party, drew her attention to an early day motion tabled in the Commons which reads: "That this House congratulated Liverpool's Radio City, and in particular the journalist Kieran Devaney, on their programme *100 Gloucester Place,* broadcast on Friday, January 29, which highlighted the activities of the Workers' Revolutionary Party at a youth training centre, where young people had been trained in anti-police methods and indoctrinated with extreme revolutionary views without the knowledge of public figures on Merseyside whose names were originally used in support of the scheme, and therefore calls on the Government to take immediate action to have these centres closed."

Mr Steel (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles, L): Given that the Department of Employment is concerned about this matter, what steps are the Government going to take to try to draw attention to these abuses which are going on at these centres?

Mrs Thatcher: I understand from the motion before the House to which he refers — I do not know the truth or otherwise of what is contained in the motion, but I assume it is true because it was put down — (Protests) — I assume it is true for the purpose of this question.

If what it says is correct, and I assume it is, it is serious that young people have been trained in anti-police methods and indoctrinated with extreme revolutionary groups without the knowledge of public figures on Merseyside whose names were originally used in support of this scheme.

I take any such allegation extremely seriously and will investigate it.

Definition in DHSS leaflet being reviewed

The Prime Minister indicated that she had asked Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Social Services, to look into the definition of "suitable job" on leaflets distributed to unemployed peop

Mr Michael Ancram (Edinburgh, South, C) had asked her if she had seen the leaflet

In the light of the tragic unemployment figures (he went on), is the definition provided in this leaflet still relevant or does it make the provision of jobs more difficult at this time?

Mrs Thatcher: I did see the leaflet to which he refers, which received a good deal of publicity a week or so ago. I had a look because of that at the definition of what is a suitable job

That definition does preclude people from taking jobs with reasonable pay. I have asked the Secretary of State for Social Services, to look into the whole matter.

Transfer of Times titles before Biffen

Mr John Biffen, the Secretary of State for Trade is looking into the transfer of the titles of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* from Times Newspapers Ltd to its parent company, News International, to see whether the law is being upheld the Prime Minister indicated at question time.

Mr Geoffrey Rippon (Hexham, C) had asked: Will Mrs Thatcher consider today instituting an inquiry into the circumstances and effects of the transfer of the titles of *The Times* newspaper?

In particular, will she seek an assurance from Mr Biffen that there has been no breach of the letter or spirit of the undertakings given by the proprietor in January last year?

Mrs Margaret Thatcher: It looks as if the legal situation is very complex. As there is more than one view upon it, I am therefore not the person, as Mr Rippon knows, to pronounce on the legal matter.

Mr Biffen is of course looking into it to see whether or not the law has been upheld.

Speaker to give ruling on Canada

The Speaker is to rule tomorrow (Wednesday) on the propriety of taking the second reading of the Canada Bill while it is the subject of a petition to the House of Lords and of a writ in the High Court.

Mr David Ennals (Norwich, North, Lab), on a point of order, recalled that last Thursday Mr Clinton Davis (Hackney, Central, Lab), had raised with the Speaker the propriety of taking the Canada Bill tomorrow as the second reading might preempt issues that were the subjection a petition to the House of Lords

Mr Davis had raised only the question of the petition to the House of Lords for leave to appeal in the case brought by the Indians of Alberta, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, but in addition the Indian nations of Saskatchewan had issued a writ in the High Court seeking certain declaratory orders.

The case concerned five instruments which affected the British Crown. They were taken in the Chancery Division of the High Court on January 14.

The Saskatchewan case raised points not touched on in the Alberta case. They were issues which were different from those raised and on which there was a petition in the House of Lords.

Ennals: Indian nations have issued writ

Since these legal submissions are being considered now (he continued) it would be improper for the Canada Bill to be taken tomorrow.

The Speaker said that Mr Ennals had submitted a long document on this question which was being considered. He would give his ruling tomorrow before the second reading debate, which was the appropriate time.

Bill seeks to make captains take a tow

Mr John Prescott (Kingston-upon-Hull, Lab) was given leave to bring in a Maritime Safety Bill designed to increase the safety of maritime vessels and their crews in United Kingdom territorial waters.

The Bill, supported by ex-Merchant Navy MPs, would require all vessels in United Kingdom waters to observe the minimum safety standards laid down by Parliament; would emphasize to captains that their prime duty was to the safety of their vessel and crew; and would make public inquiries compulsory where vessels and crews were lost.

The vessel Union Star was British-owned and sailing under an Irish flag, with men of lesser qualification than if she had been a British-registered vessel. The provision in the Bill that all vessels in United Kingdom waters should observe minimum British safety standards would reduce the risks to crews and lifeboatmen.

The provision requiring captains to see their first duty to vessel and crew would force them to take tows in difficult circumstances.

The refusal of the captain of the Union Star to accept a tow or aid in extreme conditions was bordering on criminal and reflected the growing pressures on captains to put commercial factors before the safety of vessel and crew.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Environment. Canada Bill, second reading. **Lords** (2.30): Debate on need for a better educated working population.

No amnesty for royal birthday

A Government minister rejected a suggestion by **Lord Brockway** (Lab) for an amnesty for all prisoners not guilty of violent offences on the birth of a child to the Princess of Wales.

Lord Belstead Under Secretary of State, Home Office, told him during question time: The Government has no plans for such an amnesty.

Lord Brockway: Something must be done about overcrowding in English prisons which governors have described as dustbins. Today's report by the Prison Reform Trust says that three men in a cell are so crowded with furniture that they can hardly move. Is there not a danger of serious unrest not only among prisoners but among prison officers? This would be an occasion to seek to remedy that.

Lord Belstead: Such an amnesty would set aside court sentences arbitrarily and would not do anything to reduce numbers of those getting custodial sentences later.

Lord Hunt: It would be inappropriate to involve members of the Royal Family, directly or indirectly, in ameliorating this deplorable situation, however desirable the result and no matter how joyous the event. (Cheers)

Lord Belstead: I agree.

Vet attacks gassing of badgers

The Government's controversial policy of gassing badgers was based on suspect scientific evidence and should be halted immediately, a veterinary officer who worked for six years for the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food said yesterday.

Mr David Coffey, who worked in the ministry's Central Research Laboratory, said: "The momentum to end the gassing is now being sustained not by the nutters and do-gooders, but by the sheer weight of scientific evidence against it. I am concerned about the conservation aspects, but my main concern is that if science can be manipulated in this way it is a very dangerous thing."

The Government has been carrying out a policy of gassing badgers in parts of south-western England and Wales because the animals are alleged to be responsible for the spread of bovine tuberculosis in cattle. Since the policy was introduced in 1975, 334 sets have been gassed, but the ministry does not know how many badgers have been destroyed because many of the sets were immediately sealed.

Mr Coffey said there was not even firm evidence that the strain of bovine tuberculosis affecting badgers was the same as that affecting cattle. "The Government's whole policy is based on one badger which was found to be infected with TB", he said.

Questions about immunology remained unanswered, and the ministry was refusing to publish its findings about the transmission of the disease because they were statistically invalid, Mr Coffey continued.

Even if the case against badgers had been proved, a gassing policy could not work, Mr Coffey said.

Boys' home assurance 'not given'

From Our Correspondent Belfast

The chairman of the inquiry into allegations of a homosexual vice ring at the Kincora boys' home, Belfast, yesterday denied that the inquiry had been given assurances that all criminal aspects of the affairs had been disposed of. Three members of the inquiry resigned last week, saying they believed that assurances given them were incorrect.

Mr Stephen McGonagle, chairman of the inquiry and former ombudsman for Northern Ireland, said yesterday that no assurance to such effect had been given to the committee. "I certainly never gave it and I do not believe that anything said by the Secretary of State, the Department of Health of Social Security or by the police is capable of such an interpretation", he said.

"The Secretary of State made clear in his statement to the House of Commons on February 1 that police investigations were continuing", Mr McGonagle said. "The Secretary of State also said that should the committee receive such evidence which suggested criminal offences it would be reported to the chief constable."

Dr Stanley Worrall, a former headmaster of Methodist College, Belfast, one of the three members who resigned, said that while the committee as a body had not been given that assurance "it was told to them, in good faith, by the representatives of the department as they were individually appointed".

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, is expected to outline the structure of the new inquiry within the next few day. The inquiry is likely to be held in public but witnesses will be able to remain anonymous.

Anti-church sentiment is denied

EDUCATION

The Government had a suspicion that bubbling at the bottom of the Labour Party was an anti-voluntary school complex, Mr Rhodes Boyson, Under Secretary of State for Education and Science, said during questions.

In *The Times* last week, he added, there was a letter from a member of the Labour Party, Councillor Hilary Benn, in which he had written that "the case against any extension of voluntary-aided denominational education is overwhelming".

Mr Neil Kinnock, chief Opposition spokesman on Education, denied that the Labour Party had any anti-church or any anti-voluntary schools sentiment, and said it was interested in the improvement of standards in education and provision for the liberty of the individual for every person in Britain.

Mr Fergus Montgomery (Altrincham and Sale, C) had asked whether the Secretary of State for Education and Science had any plans to alter the status of the maintained voluntary schools or the Church's role in many of these schools.

Mr Boyson replied: He has no plans to alter the status of maintained voluntary schools or the Church's role in them. The Government fully supports the very valuable part that voluntary schools play in our education system.

They provide what very many parents want for their children: education in a maintained school, but in an atmosphere that reflects their faith.

Mr Montgomery: That answer is in marked contrast with the anti-Church anti-voluntary school policy being pursued by the labour Party, (Shouts of "Rubbish" from Labour MPs).

Mr Boyson: I take his point. I have with me the first draft of the Greater London Council campaign last year which contains this: "No child shall be educationally segregated by reason of sex, religion, ethnic or socio-economic status".

If they are not to be separated by religion, there are no voluntary schools. It was cut out later because of a great out-cry but it was there at the beginning.

Mr Peter Hardy: (Rother Valley, Lab): Has there ever been a two-year period in which so many voluntary schools have been closed?

Mr Boyson: I do not know of any two-year period with such a fall in the birth rate five years ago. It must reflect on the Labour government of the time.

Sir William van Straubenzee (Wokingham, C): Would it not be better in the long term to work towards non-denominational schools, perhaps with restructuring of the arrangements between Churches and the state?

Mr Boyson: Obviously, we support denominational schools where there is a demand from parents for them. If there is a demand for joint denominational schools, we would look upon such a request with great interest.

Mr Kinnock (Bedwelty, Lab): There is no anti-Church, anti-voluntary schools sentiment in the Labour Party. Contrary to the view expressed, our interest is in the improvement of education and provision for the liberty of the individual for every person in this country.

Boyson: Government's suspicion

Mr Boyson: I am sure everyone in the Commons will welcome that statement. But we have a suspicion that bubbling at the bottom of the Labour Party is an anti-voluntary school complex. In *The Times* last week there was a letter from Councillor Hilary Bonn, a member of the Labour Party, who wrote that "the case against any extension of denominational education is overwhelming".

Talks soon on easier sacking of teachers

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said during questions he would soon be discussing with local education auhorities how to remove teachers more easily from their jobs.

He told a Conservative MP, who had said making it easier to remove teachers was vital to improving educational standards, that he had touched on a "very important factor".

Earlier he agreed that the revalations in the report by the Cockroft Committee on educational standards were worrying.

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C) had asked if Sir Keith Joseph was satisfied with the standard of education in state schools in England.

Sir Keith Joseph: There is always room for improvemenmt in both primary and secondary schools. Our education policies are directed towards that end.

Mr Stokes: Has he seen the recent report in which it said many people cannot do simple sums; they cannot read a train timetable and do not even know the meaning of the word inflation. (Loud Conservative and Labour laughter).

In view of that situation does he think that a return to the teaching of the three Rs in schools might be preferable to some of the more modern, progressive and trendy systems of education? (Conservative cheers)

Sir Keith Joseph: He is right to be worried about revelations of the Cockroft Committee report, most of those recommendations are addressed to teachers themselves and I hope their recommendations will be widely read. The Government will consider what from the Cockroft report falls to us what we will do.

Mr Nigel Forman (Sutton, Carshalton, C): Would he take time later to make a fuller statement and would he include in the answer emphasis on two important points? First, the vital importance of teaching practice in the context of teacher training and, second, can he lay a greater emphasis in his policy on absolute rather than relative standards in public exams?

Sir Keith Joseph: I can accept all parts of what he said as ingredients in the progress towards more effective education.

Mr Brian Mawhinney (Peterborough, C): Would he agree that staff-student ratios are better presently than under the previous government? Would he also agree that educational standards might be put at risk if in making necessary reductions in teacher posts to keep pace with falling roles, consideration was not given to the fact that children are taught in discreet class units and therefore global comparability numbers are not necessarily the right ones? (Labour cheers.)

Sir Keith Joseph: Yes, I thoroughly agree. Most of the pupil-teacher ratios are at record levels and yet if there are diseconomies they are in falling school populations.

Mr Neil Kinnock chief Opposition spokesman on education (Bedwellty, Lab): How can he lay claim to believe in raising achievement in education when he is presiding over a situation in which schools have £100m less in real terms to spend on essential books and teaching materials this year than they had in 1978/9?

Sir Keith Josepth: I do not believe less means better or that more means better either, necessarily.

The Government has provided money so that an extra £20m can be spent by local education authorities on books and equipment this year if the pay assumptions built in to the amount of money made available and the price assumptions are validated.

MR Timoth Eggar (Enfield, North, C): If we are to improve standards is it not vital it should be easier to remove more teachers?

Sir Keith Joseph: He touches on a very important factor which I am due to discuss with local education authorites before long.

Fourth climber dies in Highlands fall

From Ronald Faux, Fort William

The body of Dr Richard Barry, aged 33, of Roseneath Terrace, Edinburgh, was recovered by a mountain rescue team yesterday morning after he fell 300ft from a ridge on Am Bodach, near Kinlochleven.

Dr Barry, who was alone when he fell, was the fourth person to die in climbing accidents in the Scottish Highlands on Monday.

The police at Fort William said he had set out to walk from Glen Nevis to Kinlochleven with a friend and had decided to make the climb on the way. When he failed to appear the friend raised the alarm.

The third climber killed in Monday's avalanches on Ben Nevis was also named yesterday. He was Mr Christopher Palmer, aged 35, a telephone engineer, of Highfield Road, Caterham, Surrey.

Experienced mountaineers believe that the reason for so many fatal accidents in one day was probably that treacherous icy conditions coincided with fine, clear weather. Successive thaw and frost had produced an underlying surface of hard ice on to which had fallen much spindrift snow.

A local guide described the art of Scottish winter climbing as a formidable undertaking for which the Alps "can provide useful training". In Scotland the daylight is shorter, the cold as severe, and the weather probably more fickle than in the Alps.

The varieties of ice that may be found in Scotland and the speed with which conditions may change are widely recognized as demanding some of the world's best mountaineering standards.

Peer intervenes over prison solicitor scheme

By Frances Gibb

Lord Benson, adviser to the Governor of the Bank of England and chairman of the Royal Commission on Legal Services, which reported in 1979, has made representations to the Home Office over its refusal to allow the setting up of a duty solicitor scheme in prisons.

His informal intervention comes after proposals for setting up a pilot scheme for duty solicitors to work on a rota basis in prisons in Manchester were rejected by the Home Office.

When the royal commission recommended that such schemes be set up in its report two years ago, the Home Office indicated that it did not object in principle to either duty solictor schemes or the setting up of lawyers' surgeries.

But when the Manchester Legal Services Committee, a group of 25 lawyers and laymen which monitors and improves legal services in the Manchester area, recently proposed to set up a pilot scheme, the Home Office said that "this is not a good time to take the proposal further".

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Ormskirk and chairman of the all-party penal affairs group, which has written to the Home Secretary in support of the pilot scheme, said yesterday: "Lord Benson is very concerned and interested in the subject.

"He has been in touch with me to see if there was anything he could do and I suggested he spoke with the Home Office on the merits of the scheme."

Mr Eric Knott, secretary to the legal services committee, said the Home Office would agree to a pilot scheme only if there were the resources to run the scheme nationally.

"They argue that you cannot provide a service in one prison and then transfer prisoners to another establishment where those facilities do not exist. Apart from the fact that prisons have greatly varying facilities anyway, on that basis you would never start anything."

In its letter to Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, the penal affairs group points out that prisoners and their families need legal advice on a wide range of problems, such as security of tenure, rent payments and welfare benefits.

Prisoners often did not have a solicitor or if they did he practised a considerable distance from the prison.

"Prisoners often do not seek out and obtain legal advice until it is too late, which can result in serious consequences, including the loss of home and personal possessions and serious financial problems", the group says.



Kiss of joy: Police Constable Ian Bennett with his wife as he left Bristol Royal Infirmary yesterday, a month after being seriously hurt in an attack in the St Paul's district of the city.

Man loses claim on redundancy age

By Lucy Hodges

A man who complained that British Rail discriminated against him because of his sex and would not let him take voluntary redundancy at the same age as women has lost his case at the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg.

The outcome of Mr Arthur Burton's case is a setback for those who were hoping to force changes in British law through using the court. "I am very disappointed," Mr Burton, of Armthorpe, Doncaster, said.

Mr Burton, who was employed at British Rail's accounts office in Doncaster, applied for voluntary redundancy at the age of 58 under a railways scheme. He was rejected because he was under 60.

He complained to an industrial tribunal that that amounted to sex discrimination because women were entitled to take voluntary redundancy at 55. But he lost because British law, the Equal Pay Act and the Sex Discrimination Act, exclude pensions or retirement from their provisions.

The state statutory retirement age is 60 for women and 65 for men

90p a week more from ratepayers

Doubts on future of GLC

By David Walker

After debates lasting for 12 hours in the past two days the Greater London Council was on the point, yesterday, of approving a budget for 1982-83 which although huge, involving £712m of current and £365m of capital spending, costing London ratepayers 90p more a week on average, raised more sharply than ever doubts about the council's purpose.

The council's transport plans apparently now need the approval of the Department of Transport and of a bench of lawyers, including the Attorney General. Sir Peter Masefield, chairman of London Transport, is openly advocating its "nationalization". The GLC's role as a housing authority has faded away; it now manages fewer properties than most boroughs.

For all the left-wing rhetoric of the ruling Labour Party, the GLC is run by officials of immense power. Sir James Swaffield, director general, and Mr Maurice Stonefrost, comptroller of finance, in recent weeks have come to dominate GLC policy-making in an unprecedented way.

The Labour Party's attempt to breathe new life into the council has been defeated by the suburbs, the Law Lords and the understandable antipathy of ratepayers to footing the bill for additional highly-paid staff, enterprise boards and police committees.

The GLC's future is now questioned, in private, even by Mr Kenneth Livingstone, its leader. His "moderate" Labour Party rival, Mr Andrew McIntosh, has made speeches recommending the transfer of the GLC's functions to the boroughs. Next month London Tories are to present yet another petition to the Prime Minister urging reform of the GLC and the Inner London Education Authority.

The budget passed yesterday properly marks the end of Labour's first year in power. Questions about the GLC's existence would have been raised had the Conservatives been returned at the elections last May. They were not; Mr Livingstone became leader at the head of a divided party with a left-wing caucus in control of policy.

Since its manifesto promise of cheap fares has been ruled illegal, London Transport's future is bleak. The judicial review culminating in the House of Lords in December has called into doubt public transport subsidies in all the metropolitan county areas. At the very least stations, bus routes and tube lines are to be cut during a period when fares will increase (above the doubling from March 21) and passenger numbers fall.

The labour commitment to create 10,000 new jobs a year has disappeared. It is still not certain that the proposed Greater London Enterprise Board will be legal. Cuts in the government-approved GLC housing investment programme leaves it starting to build only 300 new dwellings in 1982-83 instead of thousands promised.

The GLC is planning to spend in 1982-83 £3m on "policy development" and £4m on "development policy". The likelihood is that neither will come to much, although the council does retain a residual blocking role in office and commercial development in the capital.

Symbolically, Labour policy at County Hall has been represented by Mr Livingstone. Harassed by the press in his early months, Mr Livingstone has become something of a star. Of whom else could it be reported that a sample of 100 people stopped in Oxford Street produced 28 who correctly identified the GLC leader's face? (22 identified Mr Livingstone as a former heavyweight boxing champion).

While remaining stridently left-wing, Mr Livingstone has recently had to mature as a politician in order to make compromises and keep his badly divided party together. Labour lost two of its GLC councillors to the Social Democrats, Mrs Anne Sofer in a by-election and Mr Paul Rossi by straight defection.

By tiny margins Labour has tried to tidy up the administrative chaos left by the Lords' judgment. On Monday its estimates package squeaked through, leading Mr Livingstone last night to ask approval for a gross rates precept of just over 37p, up by half on that approved by the Conservatives last year.

Allowing for government grants, that means the GLC will be asking ratepayers for 34.8p in the pound in 1982-1983.

Opponents of heavier lorries unite

By John Young

An alliance of local authority associations and environmental groups joined forces with the Royal Town Planning Institute yesterday to campaign against the Government's plans to allow heavier lorries on the roads.

It was said to be an unprecedented gathering of forces, and it seems sure to present a formidable parliamentary lobby.

Apart from the institute, it consists of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, the Association of District Councils, the National Association of Local Councils, Transport 2000, the Council for the Protection of Rural England and the Civic Trust.

The campaign is also supported in principle by the Association of County Councils and other organizations, including the National Federation of Women's Institutes, may be invited to join.



The Princess of Wales at Heathrow yesterday before leaving for a holiday on the island of Windermere, in the Bahamas, with the Prince. They travelled as "Mr and Mrs Hardy" in a British Airways jet, and as they stepped on board they were offered a "bucks fizz," champagne and fresh orange.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Little rise likely in parole rate

Lord Harris of Greenwich, chairman of the Parole Board, said at Hull yesterday that the board was aware of prison overcrowding, which created an extremely serious situation but he doubted if the parole rate would rise dramatically (our Hull Correspondent writes).

If people were to ignore public feeling over parole there would be considerable anxiety. At present half of the people were in prisons were given parole and the failure rate was about 10 per cent.

There was a substantial number of vagrant types and people with mental illness in prison, he said, it was highly objectionable to have the mentally ill in jail, but the programmes for providing secure units for them were extremely slow to develop.

It would be idle to pretend that overcrowding had no impact on any of their decisions. It did not play a central role; but it might have influence on a highly marginal decision where the arguments for and against were evenly balanced.

The board's responsibility was to implement the parole scheme on the basis of the criteria of the Home Secretary in 1975, and prison overcrowding was not one of those conditions.

TB tests for pupils

Hundreds of pupils at the Royal School, Wolverhampton, are to be screened for tuberculosis because a sixth-form girl boarder from Hongkong has contracted the disease. A further hundred at Tettenhall College, where the girl studied last year, are also to have medical tests.

Murder charge

A boy aged 11 was charged at Birmingham juvenile court yesterday with murdering a six-month old girl at his parents' home in Sparkbrook, Birmingham. He was remanded in the care of the local authority until next Wednesday.

Council aids buses

Essex County Council is to give £2.2m this year to six bus operators in the county to help them to provide 130 uneconomical but essential services. Five small rural companies will receive £40,000.

Penlee inquest date

The inquest on the eight Penlee lifeboatmen and the eight people from the coaster Union Star who died in the Christmas disaster off Cornwall will open at Penzance on March 18.

A cooperative for jobs

From Ronald Kershaw, Hartlepool

An experiment financed by the EEC Social Fund, the Church of England, the Manpower Services Commission and Cleveland County Council is to start at Hartlepool in April. Its aim is to promote the cooperative form of organization in industry and provide jobs for young people.

On the initiative of the government-backed Cooperative Development Agency, about £133,425 has been obtained from the EEC fund for the first year; the Hartlepool Deanery of the church will contribute £5,000 towards capital equipment and the council has pledged £35,000. Another £129,000 will come from the MSC.

Hartlepool was selected for the experiment because steelworks have closed and unemployment tops 20 per cent.

The idea is that products, processors and schemes worthy of commercial exploitation will be made available to the Cooperative Enterprise Centre, as it will be called. Projects being considered are bead-blasting, motor cycle parts, manufacturing guitar cases and other musical accessories,

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Von Bulow judge warns press

Newport, Rhode Island — The judge in the attempted murder trial of Claus von Bulow threatened to exclude some reporters after they tried to learn the details of a private conference between him and the jury.

Judge Thomas H. Needham had apparently questioned jurors on whether they had read a newspaper report that identified a potential witness as a prostitute. He had agreed to a defence request that there had been no reference to the woman's profession if she was called to the stand because it could prejudice the jury toward her testimony.

Mr Von Bulow, aged 55, is charged with trying to murder Mrs Martha "Sunny" von Bulow, who is in an irreversible coma, with insulin injections during 1979 and 1980.

Delhi jet deal with French

Paris.— The Defense Ministry has confirmed that France and India have signed a memorandum of understanding on the sale of 40 Mirage 2000 aircraft to India. The first of which would be delivered in 1984. Negotiations had been in progress for two years.

In the second phase of the deal parts of another 50 aircraft will be manufactured in India; in the final phase total manufacture will be local.

Gaddafi and Assad to meet

Damascus. — President Assad of Syria and Colonel Gaddafi of Libya, leading figures in the hardline Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, will meet soon, the official Syrian press reported.

The newspapers said President Assad had received telephone calls from both Colonel Gaddafi and President Ali Nasser Muhammed of South Yemen expressing solidarity with Syria.

King's uncle 'unreliable'



Brussels.—A Brussels court criticized Prince Charles of Belgium, the 78-year-old uncle of King Baudouin as unreliable, forgetful, extravagant and lavish but willing to disinherit his family.

Acquitting the prince's lawyer and his wife, who were accused of swindling him, the court ordered the Prince to pay costs.

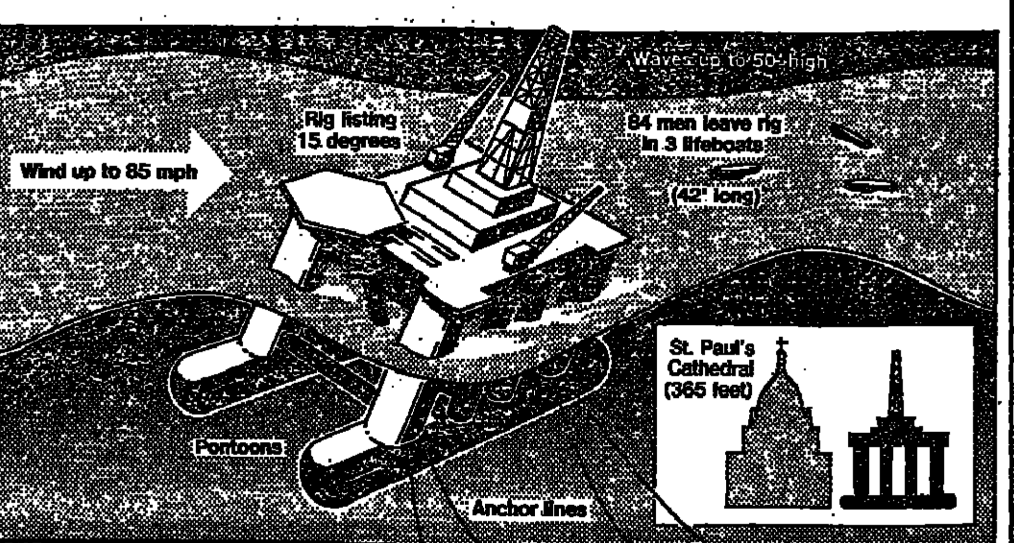
Runcie visit

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, will pay his first visit as leader of the Anglican Communion to the World Council of Churches headquarters in Geneva later this month. He will spend three days in discussion with council staff and leaders.

'Carpenter' held

Rome. — Police have arrested an alleged Red Brigades "Carpenter" who they believe made the trunk used to carry off the kidnapped American Brigadier General James Bozier from his Verona apartment on December 17.

Oil rig disaster



Hazards for crews in angry seas

By Our Foreign Staff

Claims by former crew members of the Ocean Ranger oil rig which sank off Newfoundland on Monday that safety drills were "really lackadaisical" and equipment inadequate has once again raised serious doubts about the safety of such structures.

These inadequacies have led to the gruesome nickname given to the rig by workers on it — the "Ocean Danger". But British officials responsible for safety on oil rigs in the North Sea maintain that British installations are generally well managed and safety practices are respected by the oil companies which operate them.

In the 20 years since oil exploration began, a weight of law has been developed in Britain to ensure that offshore structures are properly equipped with survival capsules and that personnel are trained how to use them. Under these regulations, an oil rig or platform must be equipped with enough totally enclosed lifeboats with seats for 50 per cent more crewmembers than there are on board; they must be equipped with a combination of lifeboats and inflatable life rafts with twice as many places as there are members of the crew.

Usually the lifeboats are designed to seat between 14 and 50 men and are meant to survive for up to 30 minutes in a sea blazing with flames. They are entirely self-righting — provided that all passengers are strapped into their seats — they also have their own power, medical and emergency supplies and are fitted with an internal supply of compressed air.

In addition to life-craft, sufficient life jackets have to be provided on board all rigs to cover 150 per cent of the crewmen. Every crewmember has his own flotation lifejacket in his living quarters and the remainder are placed round the rig.

However, there is no requirement that survival suits have to be generally worn or provided. Suits of the kind used to keep a man dry and reasonably warm, even when he is thrown into the North Sea, are provided only to passengers on most helicopter flights between offshore structures and the mainland.

Safety experts of the British National Oil Corporatio say the safety suits available to the majority of the oil companies operating in the North Sea are the best that are available — and no second-generation suits that have been tested have been shown to be better.

Latest generation of British survival suits. The material resists extreme heat, cold and fire. It is made by G. R. Woodford Ltd of Norwich and is called the PAK EVAC. It costs £35 and is just starting duty in the North Sea.

One expert said it was asking the "$64,000 question" to ask how long someone would survive. It depended on the circumstances at the time.

Mr Geoffrey Woodford, whose Norwich company produces a new survival suit, agreed: "The only way to a measurement is to have an individual prepared to undergo tests until he is clinically dead."

He said there was no international or United Kingdom mandatory specification for a safety suit, and added: "No one at the Department of Trade has the common guts to put their signature on a specification."

Only the Norwegians and the United States Coast Guard had their own specifications, Mr Woodford said.

In the North Sea the mean temperature was °C. "The criterion is eight hours survival at zero and two suits do it — the Helly Henson of Norway and the Beaufort. They are designed for aviation from platform to base but it is impossible for a man to work inside them.

"A number of dry suits are produced for survival in cold water but this is a highly political and highly profit-motivated area. Beyond eight hours at eight degrees you have flotation suits for general on board deck duties.

"However, if you take the Fastnet disaster, a high percentage of fatalities occurred through individuals making their way to life rafts and sitting in them in cold water. The core temperature of the body is the rectum and the penetration of cold induced the fast onset of hypothermia".

There are two main types of survival suits used by people working on offshore Canadian rigs. One is the floater suit designed to keep a person above water but offering little protection against the cold. It is not highly regarded fby helicopter crews or rig workers.

The other is known as the "once only" survival suit which is worn in addition to a lifejacket. It encases the whole body and has a small breathing aperture. It is apparently capable of keeping a man alive in heavy weather conditions for up to four hours, depending on his physical condition and water temperature.

Different rigs apparently use different types of survival suits and present indications are that the Ocean Ranger provided only floater suits.

MPs query rig's seaworthiness

From John Best, Ottawa, Feb 16

The capsizing of the Ocean Ranger in heavy weather off Newfoundland, with the loss of life has raised questions about the seaworthiness of the rig and about Canada's ability to respond to maritime emergencies.

In the House of Commons, here yesterday, the Government said it was setting up a commission of inquiry into the disaster. Investigators had already started work in St John's.

Conservative opposition MPs, however, were more concerned for the moment with an examination carried out by federal inspectors on the Ocean Ranger shortly before it sank.

It was not immediately clear whether the inspection was directly related to a scare which occurred last week when, according to reports, the Ocean Ranger, nicknamed Ocean Danger by some former crew members, developed a 15-degree list.

Newspapers, radio and television here have been full of reports about inadequate safety procedures on the rig and about drills which one former crew member described as a farce.

Mr James McGrath, a Newfoundland Conservative MP, told journalists that there was a "ballast problem" on the Ocean Ranger last week which set off an alarm and activated an abandon-ship order — which, however, was not carried out.

He also referred to two inspections which had been made into the matter of faulty ballast and said that he found it incredible that Mr Marc Lalonde, the Canadian Energy Minister, would not have seen the inspection reports. Minutes earlier, in the Commons, Mr Lalonde had acknowledged that an inspection was carried out "in the last two weeks" but he had not seen a report.

The Opposition said it would continue to press for the release of the report which, they suggested, might help to explain the origins of yesterday's disaster, 175 nautical miles east of St John's.

Mr Patrick Nowlan, a Conservative from Nova Scotia, asked in the Commons why a proposal to establish a safety station on a rocky outcrop between Newfoundland and the oil field had been rejected by the Liberal Government. Mr Jean-Luc Pepin, Transport Minister, promised to look into the matter.

The Opposition also revived the long-standing issue about whether Canada has enough rescue aircraft stationed at Gander, Newfoundland,

Weinberger fears fall of Salvador to Cuba

From Mohsin Ali
Washington, Feb 16

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, said today the United States could not afford to have El Salvador fall into the hands of Cuban and Soviet-backed leftists, but he did not discuss what action could be taken.

He said in a television interview that Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, had correctly stated the position by emphasizing that all Caribbean countries were confronted by a growing threat from Cuba and its new ally Nicaragua.

Mr Haig told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee recently that the United States was not alone in its support of the Salvadoran Government.

President Reagan is due to make a major policy speech — probably next week to the Organisation of American States (OAS) — aimed at assisting countries facing severe economic problems in the Caribbean.

The assistance package would include trading opportunities, investment incentives and increased financial aid, andsome proposals will soon be put to Congress.

American officials today could not say whether the President's speech, still in the drafting stage, would contain references to Cuban activities in the Caribbean and Central America.

Mr Haig in his Senate Foreign Relations Committee statement said that at a meeting of the OAS in St Lucia last December, 22 out of 29 nations voted in favour of the Salvadoran programme for elections; only three voted against.

He observed: "A collective response to the danger is emerging within Central America with the formation on January 19 of the Central America Democratic Community. Costa Rica, Honduras and El Salvador were joined on January 29 by Venezuela, Colombia and the United States to help carry through the democratic transformation of El Salvador.

"Cooperating with our friends and allies in the region, we will do whatever is necessary to contain the threat."

But Mr Haig has repeatedly pointed out that there are no current plans for the use of American forces.

☐ San Salvador: President Duarte has called on all Salvadorans to vote in next month's elections as the only peaceful and democratic way out of the country's present crisis (Reuter reports).

His plea was contained in a statement to reporters after a cabinet meeting at which the social, political, economic and military situation was discussed.

President Duarte said: "Those who believe they will accomplish their aims of weakening the Government's position, carrying on slanderous campaigns ... have the opportunity to reach their goals democratically in the elections set for March 28."

The civilian-military junta headed by President Duarte has said that the elections for a constituent assembly will take place "even if the guerrillas blow up a thousand bombs" on polling day to keep people from voting.

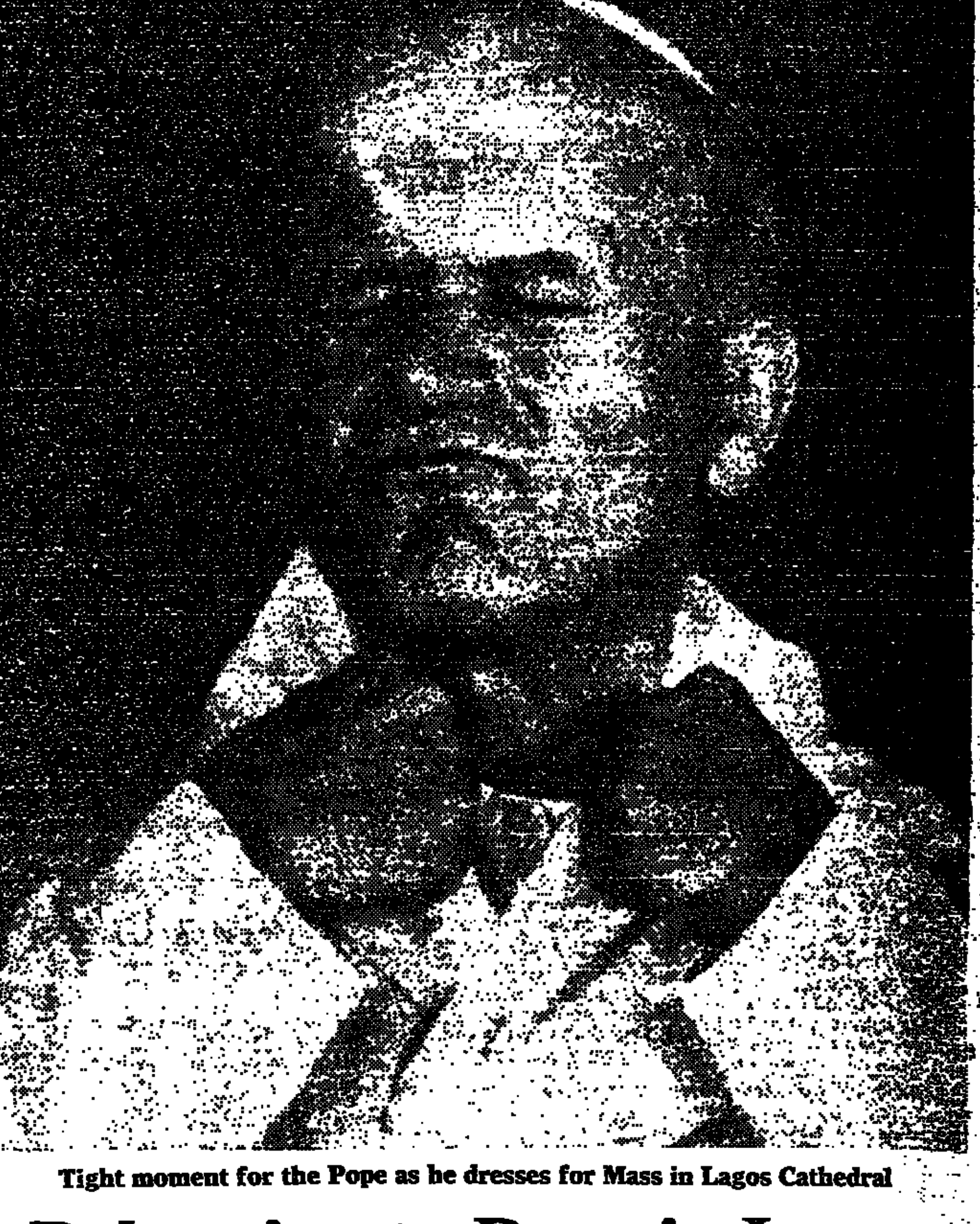
☐ A hospital administrator and a nurse were murdered today at Chalatenango in northern El Salvador when two men with a machine gun shot at the car in which the two were driving to work (AFP reports).

☐ London: Up to 30,000 refugees from El Salvador are in "extreme peril" as atrocities committed by army death squads continue to escalate, according to a British Council of Churches delegation which has just returned from the Honduras and El Salvador border (the Press Association reports).

The delegation, which included Lord Avebury, chairman of the Government to refuse to send observers to the forthcoming elections.

Killer squad strikes

Rio de Janeiro. — Twelve men, most of them with criminal records, were killed here over the weekend, apparently by the right-wing "squadron of death", police said.



Tight moment for the Pope as he dresses for Mass in Lagos Cathedral

Poles sing to Pope in Lagos

Lagos, Feb 16.—The Pope listened today to members of Solidarity, the suppressed Polish trade union, as they sang the Polish hymn "God save Poland" during an audience in the garden of the papal Embassy in Nigeria.

He received some 300 members of the Polish community in Lagos, including Solidarity members among the experts working there, as his five-day visit to Nigeria drew to a close.

Wearing Solidarity badges, they handed out petitions and sang the hymn with the line, now banned, "God give us back our free country". The Pope listened with a faint smile, while Dr Witold Jurasz, the Polish Ambassador to Nigeria, stood in silence.

The Pontiff spoke to his compatriots of martial law in Poland, and said that the rights of all nations should be respected. In Poland, the affairs of the state and the Church had been closely intertwined for many centuries and "the last few years have been particularly difficult", he said.

"Not in vain have the Poles fought for their liberty ... All this is part of the spiritual heritage of the Pope in Poland and through this patrimony it is easy for me to find a particular solidarity with nations and men that suffer, who are discriminated against and deprived of freedom and national sovereignty."

There were no Polish banners, posters or flags to be seen and members of the Polish community said it had been made clear that no demonstrations in favour of Solidarity would be tolerated.

While the Poles gathered outside the embassy, leaflets in Polish were distributed explaining the Polish Government's view

In an address, to diplomats, the Pope said that human beings should express freedom "in the responsible determination of their action and in that self-mastery which excludes external constraint".

☐ Ankara: Turkey will demand the extradition from West Germany of Mr Omer Ay, a suspected right-wing terrorist believed to be associated with Mr Mehaet Ali Agca who was jailed for the shooting of the Pope in Rome last May, Turkish Justice Ministry officials said today.

Mr Ay was arrested in a red-light district of Hamburg on Sunday. The Turkish authorities said they had issued an international arrest warrant for Mr Ay who is being sought of charges of inciting to murder in two separate cases of terrorist killings.— AP

US tries to avoid rift with Israel

Washington, Feb 16. — The White House today attempted to avoid a fresh rift with Israel by issuing a denial that it had changed its policy towards Israel and saying there were no plans to sell suphisticated weapons to Jordan.

The assurances were given after Mr Menachem Begin, the Israel Prime Minister, had strongly criticized United States policy when he spoke in a Knesset debate. He was reported to have written a personal message of protest to Mr Reagan.

Mr Begin won support form all the main parties in the Knesset when he condemned remarks made by Mr Caspar Weinberger, the American Defence Secretary, during his Middle East visit, suggesting that he favoured the sale of missiles and aircraft to Joudan and that the United States was sstrengthening its ties with Arab countries at the expense of Israel.

In his letter to Mr Reagan, he gave a warning that selling F16 jets and Hawk mobile missiles to Jordan would pose " one of the gravest potential dangers we have faced ever since the renewal of our statehood.

He asked: "If those sophisticated weapons are to be supplied to Jordan, just as similar ones have already been committed to Saudi Arabia, what will become of the qualitative and quantitative edge you were so kind to promise me?"

Mr Larry Speakes, the White House spokesman, issued the assurances yesterday. He said: "There is no change in policy towards Israel. There is no proposal or plan for us to sell weapons to Jordan." He said a policy statement by Mr Reagan denying a shift in attitude towards Israel would be issued by the White House this afternoon.

Other officials said Mr Reagan had drafted a letter assuring Mr Begin that United States relations with Israel would remain close despite his Administration's criticisms of certain aspects of Israeli actions.

A new hard-line Israeli envoy, Mr Moshe Arens, officially began his duties in Washington, today. Mr Reagan called Mr Arens, a member of the Knesset for eight years, to the White House today to receive his credentials as Ambassador and review United States-Israeli relations as well as the peace process in the Middle East.

Mr Weinberger today described Mr Begin's criticisms as "pre-emptive reaction".

Revolt in Hama

Syrian press denounces Brotherhood

From Robert Fisk, Damascus, Feb 16

If you believe what Syria's government-controlled press is saying about the country's national sentiments, then the Muslim Brotherhood — the organization behind the revolt in the central Syrian city of Hama — must be even more unpopular than the Israelis.

Two Damascus newspapers, *al-Baath* and *Tisnreen*, filled many of their columms today with allegedly spontaneous letters of support for the Government from towns and villages around Hama, while the *Syria Times* buoyantly announced that the people of the northern city of Allepo "denounced the crimes committed by the Muslim brother gangs in Hama through which they added another black page to their record of conspiracy against national unity and the achievements of Syria's masses".

Whether such statements are published for the benefit of Syria's far-from-gullible public or to boost the self-confidence of the authorities is a matter of some debate. Given the fact that the fighting in Hama has now lasted 15 days, the rebels in the city seem to be putting up some remarkable resistance despite the supposed hostility expressed for them by Syria's law-abiding masses.

Much more to the point, the Syrian Government is anxious to somther a spate of alarming rumours circulating in Damascus about the violence in Hama and about the cruel methods which, it is claimed, are being used to suppress it.

One such report says seven women left Hama last night after their husbands had been taken from their homes and machine-gunned to death in front of them by Syrian special forces troops. Another rumour suggests that Government forces have killed several doctors in the city because the medical profession was believed to be involved with the Muslim Brotherhood.

There are stories of knifings and of the systematic destruction of entire streets, in some cases with the inhabitants still inside the houses.

Since Hama is still sealed off by the Syrian Army it is, of course, impossible to confirm or deny these disturbing reports. But the population of Damascus is hearing of them, and they do not like what they hear. The word of an elderly Sunni Muslim shopkeeper in the capital this morning were not untypical. "I don't know what to believe", he said. "But if this violence spreads to Damascus, how do I know that I will not be dragged into the street and shot by soldiers?"

The Government, meanwhile, continues to blame the United States and Israel for the Hama uprising, and today added Jordan and Iraq to those responsible. The newspaper *al-Thawra* insisted that "America was suffering from illusions and has again suffered defeat at the hands of our people,

Benn attacks Reagan

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr Wedgwood Benn last night accused the Reagan Administration of dragging the British economy into a deeper recession than that experienced during the 1930s.

In a lecture on democratic socialism to students at the University of Maryland, he said that there were growing signs that the peoples of Europe viewed the crude capitalism of the west with as much revulsion as the state communism of the East.

He forecast that the 1980s would see movements for national independence, political democracy, peace and development grow in strength. they would also "challenge the claims of the two superpowers to divide the world between their spheres of interest".

But Mr Benn, who will be holding a Washington press conference today, before returning to London, concentrated his attack on the policies being pursued by the American government.

He said:"Our experience of the Thatcher Government has shown that the monetarist and militarist policies that she has pursued have done immense damage to our nation at home and abroad.

"Similarly, the policies of the Reagan Administration are equally damaging to American interests, not only at home but also in Europe, where America is losing support".

Mr Benn said: At the same time as the USA is seen to support so many rotten military dictatorships all over the world, as in El Salvador, Chile and Turkey, it demands human rights, free trade unionism and democratic elections in Poland, which its own polices are denying to millions of others in areas where America has great influence".

National strike call by French customs men

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Feb 16

The work-to-rule by French customs officials, which began three weeks ago in protest against the application of the 39 hour week and the suppresion of "perks" and special privileges, has taken a turn for the worse after the breakdown of negotiations yesterday at the Finance Ministry with union representatives.

The communist-dominated CGT branch of customs officials has called for a nation-wide stoppage today and tomorrow, and the leftist CFDT for a one-day stoppage tomorrow. The tension has been especially marked at Hendaye on the Fronco-Spanish frontier, where nearly 1,000 lorries, many loaded with perishable goods, were blocked this morning by the strike. The drivers had themselves decided to blockade the forntier two days ago in protest against the go-slow of customs officials.

Yesterday, representatives of the French lorry drivers organizations openly threatened to resort to force if no solution were found to the problem. "Rather violence than Bankruptcy," one of them declared.

The situation eased somewhat at the end of the morning when the drivers agreed to start moving again, on being issued by French police with "transit certificates" stating that they had crossed the frontier without customs inspection "for strike reasons".

But this is regarded by the drivers as only a provisional solution.

Red brocade at coup trial

From Richard Wigg, Madrid, Feb 16

A warehouse near Madrid where the Spanish Army usually keeps paper for making maps will be the site of the court martial of officers involved in last year's attempted coup, which opens on Friday, four days before the first anniversary of the attempt which shook the country's new democracy.

The warehouse has been converted and what a party of 150 spanish and foreign journalists and photographers, who were shown over today, found were the solemn trappings of Spanish military justice.

Red brocade is everywhere between the corrugated iron roof and the brick walls, including on the chairs of the 17 military judges, all generals, and those of the 33 defendents, three of them generals, 29 other officers, and one solitary civilian. Behind the judges' bench is a large brocade tapestry, interlaced with silver thread, bearing the emblem of the Supreme Council of Military Justice.

Officers taking the press round explained that to keep down the costs of such a big court martial, expected to last at least 30 to 35 days (Saturdays included), the chairs had been supplied from the Stock of the Ministry of Culture.

The journalists were taken in army buses, after surrendering identity cards or passports, six miles along a motorway south-west of Madrid to where the Army's geographical service is located on an encampment watched over by armed troops in turrets at regular intervals along long high walls.

All the defendants, except one, have for the past four days been living not 100 yards from the courtroom in the officers' residence where they will stay throughout the trial.

The defendants will be seated according to rank and length of service and protected by a 2 inch thick bullet proof glass screen at their backs immediately in front of the 66 places for Spanish and foreign journalists.

Behind them come more than 300 places for relatives of the accused men (each is allowed up to six), and observers from military regions. Space is left for about 30 members of the public, to be accommodated in the order in which they line up before the geographical unit's main entrance.

هكذا من الأصل

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Party boycotts Malta ceremony

Valletta — Malta's fifth parliament since independence was inaugurated in the absence of the Nationalist Party members. Although it polled most votes in last December's general election, the majority of seats were taken by Mr Dom Mintoff's Malta Labour Party (Austin Sammut writes).

Dr Eddie Fenech Adami, the leader, read a statement in which Nationalist party members said that they would not attend parliamentary sittings until the present constitutional crisis had ended. It has accused Mr Mintoff's Government of engineering a situation where the party with most votes would remain in opposition.

'Flying Feather' is caught

Hongkong — Left-wing newspapers here have acclaimed the capture of China's most wanted criminal, *Li Yu-ching*, known as "Flying Feather" because of his skilful evasion of arrest.

He has been hunted over the past 12 years accused of 300 crimes, including rape, robbery, assault and hooliganism—but not murder. When he was at last arrested, by three militiamen and eight cadres, the capture was celebrated with fireworks at a public gathering near Peking and his captors received bicycles and wrist watches.

Party members' £40,000 fraud

Peking.—A fraud covering seven Chinese provinces and involving about £40,000 has been discovered by the Shaanxi authorities, a newspaper in the province said.

Helped by party members, a gang led by the purchasing agent of a tool factory and trading warehouse speculated in goods under state control for three years before being caught.

Rocket crashes

Kuopio, Finland. — A Soviet rocket crashed in the Karelia region of the western Soviet Union minutes after being launched from a military base in the Kola Peninsula, witnesses said here.

Ex-Civil Guard shot

Madrid. — A retired Civil Guard, aged 60, was shot dead while strolling with two friends in San Sebastian. One of his friends was wounded.

Suzman says police beat cell death detainee

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg, Feb 16

The South African Parliament in Cape Town today heard allegations that Dr Neil Aggett, the young white trade union leader found hanged in his prison cell, was stripped naked, beaten and otherwise mistreated while being interrogated by security police.

The accusation was made during a debate on security legislation by Mrs Helen Suzman, the veteran member of the opposition Progressive Federal Party. She said her evidence came from another detainee, whom she declined to name, who had witnessed the alleged assault on Dr Aggett by three policemen.

There was uproar in the House of Assembly as Mr Louis le Grange, the Minister of Police, indignantly rejected what he called Mrs Suzman's "absolutely untrue, low, common and scandalous allegation". He had earlier appealed to the Speaker to order all references to Dr Aggett struck from the record as the matter was still sub judice.

Quoting from what purported to be a letter from the anonymous witness, Mrs Suzman said that the naked Dr Aggett had been forced to do a substantial number of press-ups and had been "hit either with a belt or a rolled-up newspaper while doing them".

He had then allegedly been made to get up and run on the spot, every now and then being forced to lift his legs up high. "All the while he was being interrogated. The hitting with the newspaper went on all the time, especially if his arms sagged", Mrs Suzman said, reading from the letter. "He was sweating profusely, and when once he nearly fell over a chair with exhaustion, he was further harassed."

Mr le Grange said that Mrs Suzman's allegations "definitely cannot be true" otherwise Dr Aggett's body would have exhibited injuries other than those to his neck. This was the first indirect disclosure by a government official of the results of the post mortem examination on Dr Aggett, who died on February 5.

From Mrs Suzman's description of it, however, the mistreatment of Dr Aggett would not necessarily have left any visible marks on his body, and need not, therefore, be inconsistent with a post mortem finding of the kind indicated by Mr le Grange.

Mrs Suzman, who is the chief opposition spokesman on civil liberties, had earlier declared that whatever the post mortem and inquest findings turned out to be "it was Section 6 of the Terrorism Act which killed Neil Aggett".

Section 6 allows the security police to hold suspects indefinitely without trial and in solitary confinement for the purpose of interrogation. Dr Aggett, who was arrested last year with a score or more of other trade union and student activists, had been in detention for 70 days

☐ A woman detained under the security laws since January 5 was admitted to hospital yesterday with a respiratory complaint, her daughter said in Johannesburg today (Reuter reports). Mrs Esther Levitan, a grandmother in her late 50s, is at least the third woman detainee in South Africa to be admitted to hospital since Dr Aggett's death.

Her daughter, Mrs Lesley Isaacson arrived last week from London and saw her mother on Friday. Mrs Levitan, a member of the anti-apartheid Black Sash organization, was detained only three days after returning to South Africa from a stay with her daughter in Britain.



Northern visitor: Mrs Vigdis Finnbogadottir, President of Iceland, who arrived in Britain yesterday for an official visit which ends on Friday

GOVERNOR FORCED TO RESIGN

From Kuldip Nayar Delhi, Feb 16

Mr T Anjiah, the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister, today submitted his resignation on the advice of Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister.

The state is run by the Congress (I) Party and, therefore, there was no question of Mrs Gandhi's directive being flouted. But what has raised eyebrows is that he resigned after a display of annoyance by Mr *Rajiv Gandhi*, Mrs Gandhi's son. Mr Gandhi was recently in Andhra Pradesh on a "build-up" tour and grew angry over the "ostentious welcome" which the state had arranged.

However, Mr Anjiah believes that he has been asked to resign not because Mr Gandhi is annoyed with him but because Mrs Gandhi thinks that he is not the "right person" to lead the Congress (I) to victory in the forthcoming elections for the Andhra Assembly.

Namibia alliance split leaves Pretoria adrift

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg, Feb 16

The resignation of Mr Peter Kalangula, the black president of the multi-ethnic Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, and the subsequent departure of his own Ovambo-based party will make it more difficult in the short term for the South African Government to sell the idea of Namibian independence to right-wing white opinion here, according to Western diplomats.

The alliance was created by the South Africans during the 1970s and, before Mr Kalangula's resignation, consisted of 11 different parties each representing an ethnic group (including whites) among Namibia's population of about one million. The whites account for about 11 per cent of the total.

The loss of Mr Kalangula and his party is a devastating blow because the Ovambo-speaking group of tribes in the north constitute nearly half the population and are also the main source of support of Swapo, the guerrilla organization which would be the alliance's main opponent in pre-independence elections.

So long as the alliance retained an electoral base among the Ovambos, the South African Government, whatever its private view of the alliance's real chances, was able to offer some prospect to right-wing whites

Whatever credibility it had as a realistic moderate alternative to Swapo has been destroyed with Mr Kalangula's departure. The question now is whether, having broken free of the alliance's tainted embrace, Mr Kalangula can, on his own, develop into a far more serious challenge to Swapo than the multi-party alliance ever was.

One factor in his favour, as an ordained Anglican priest, could be the strong influence of church organizations among the Ovambos, about 80 per cent of whom are Christians (mainly Lutheran and Roman Catholic). He is also a personality of some force and charisma.

SHORT AND MESTEL IN CHESS LEAD

By Harry Golombek Chess Correspondent

Quite undeterred at losing to Ligterink in the previous round of the West European zonal chess tournament at Marbella (Spain), Nigel Short (England) gained an easy victory over Langeweg in round 7 on Monday. He now leads in Group A with 5½ points out of seven

Other results in this group: Nunn (England) 1, Doyle (Ireland) 0; Serel (France) 0, Ligterink (the Netherlands) 1, Fernandez (Spain) 0, Gallego (Spain) 1: Gomez (Andorra) 0, Van der Wiel (the Netherlands) 1: McNab (Scotland) had the bye.

Jonathan Mestel (England) enjoys a comfortable lead in Group B with 5½ points out of 6 ahead of Hebden (England).

Other results: Van der Sterren (the Netherlands) 1, Klauner (Luxembourg) 0: Meulders (Belgium) ½, Rivas (Spain) ½: Blow (Jersey) and Jones (Wales) adjourned. Donner (the Netherlands) had the bye.

Opposition parties merge in Brazil

From Patrick Knight, Sao Paulo, Feb 16

Brazil's two biggest opposition parties have voted overwhelmingly to merge in an attempt to defeat Government moves to ensure their defeat in Congressional elections to be held in November this year.

However, the merger of the centrist Popular Party and the Brazilian Democratic Party has still to be approved by the country's electoral tribunal, and the military-led Government may intervene to try to frustrate the merger.

The amalgamation should guarantee the new grouping of governorships of most of the major states, and perhaps 70 per cent of the popular vote, in the elections for Congress, which will choose President Figueiredo's successor in 1984.

The Government decided last November to institute measures which would oblige voters to select candidates from one party in any area, a move which would have favoured the well-organized Government party, the Social Democratic Party.

Voters have recently generally chosen Government party candidates for local authority positions, largely because Government party men have been in a position to deliver the goods. In contrast, the voters have increasingly tended to vote for the opposition for central government positions. Linking the vote was supposed to persuade electors to give priority to the local issues which affect them most, and consequently tip the balance at central level too.

The Government has no intention of allowing the opposition to be victorious. Its view of democracy has been clearly defined as working gradually towards wider participation in the electoral process, but without involving an actual transfer of power.

It is widely believed that more measures will be announced by the government to divide the opposition in the next few weeks, as well as regulations regarding the use of television by the various parties.

The fundamental question is whether the regime which has ruled Brazil since 1964 still has the strength and unity to hold together its various backers, and push through new measures. Those which favour the Government in one state often tend to have the opposite effect elsewhere.

Chemical war gibe draws Soviet anger

From Harry Debelius, Madrid, Feb 16

American accusations that the Soviet Union mass-produces and uses chemical and biological weapons brought an irate reply from Mr Leonid Ilyichev, the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, at an informal, closed-door meeting of heads of delegation at the European Security Conference here today.

Mr Max Kampelman, the chief United States delegate, brought up the subject in response to a Soviet remark, at last Tuesday's plenary session, that the United States was engaged in the preparation of chemical weapons.

The American expressed surprise, saying: "I would have thought this to be a subject that the Soviet Union would want to keep away from, since they have made every effort to hide from the world their own priority attention to this form of brutality". He proceeded to make a series of accusations regarding the alleged Soviet use of chemical and bacteriological weapons in Laos, Kampuchea, Afghanistan and Yemen.

Mr Ilyichev reacted in a tone of "straight vituperation", according to one Western diplomat. Another said he characterized Mr Kampelman's speech as "full of lies and falsehood" and "provocative".

Mr Kampelman charged that Soviet activities in the field of chemical and biological warfare represented violations of the Geneva Convention of 1925, the 1972 Biological Weapons Convention, and Article X of the Helsinki Final Act of 1975.

He also argued that the United States had ceased the production of all chemical weapons in 1969 unilaterally, and thereafter had tried unsuccessfully to reach an agreement with the Soviet Union on a comprehensive and verifiable ban on all chemical weapons.

"It is unmistakable that innocent people in Laos, Kampuchea and Afghanistan have been victims of a deadly poison rained down upon them by airplanes carrying, among other lethal agents, potent mycotoxins of the trichothecene group. Death, often with victims choking on their own blood, occurs within an hour after exposure", he said.

It is thus the reluctant policy of the United States to build and maintain a chemical munitions stockpile to deny a significant military advantage to any who would seek to initiate their use."

Polish priests accused of being gossipmongers

Warsaw, Feb 16. — The official Polish press today accused some priests of abusing their right to visit internees by acting as messengers or spreading sensational reports about their treatment.

The Communist Party newspaper *Trybuna Ludu* reported that up to January 26 representatives of the Polish Catholic Church, including Archbishop Josef Glemp, the primate, had made 76 visits to internment camps. Mass had been said on 237 occasions, and some 2,000 food parcels had been delivered.

The paper said that the authorities approved of these activities and had even allowed a convent to prepare special food for Adam Michnik, the interned dissident, who, it said, was suffering from a stomach disorder.

However, referring to "sensational" reports by Western radio stations, the paper said that there were indications that some of those allowed to come into contact with the internees "perceived their tasks and duties in a rather distorted way".

The PAP news agency quoted the paper as saying that "abusing the confidence of the authorities and church alike, a handful of people play the gossipmonger or the postman".

☐ Vienna: A 21-year-old Polish worker was killed in an explosion that damaged a workers' hostel in the south-western city of Wroclaw yesterday, Polish radio reported. The explosion was caused by "manipulation of an unidentified explosive material", according to first reports monitored here.

The radio also reported that small private and cooperative exporters in Poland are receiving bank credits again. Many banking facilities were suspended when martial law was imposed

☐ Geneva: A world Council of Churches delegation just back from Poland said today that it believed Western economic sanctions were hurting the polish people and asked for protests, particularly against food sanctions. — Reuter.

Drastic measures needed to save EEC, Thorn says

From George Clark, Strasbourg, Feb 16

If member states failed to take drastic economic measures, including wage controls, to stimulate industrial activity, "we may be faced with serious problems of social stability," Mr Gaston Thorn, president of the EEC commission, said yesteday at the European Parliament here.

Mr Thorn, in spite of claiming to be an optimist, presented a depressing pictre of dissension between the 10 member nations. "The unrelenting recession is strengthening the temptation to go it alone which will eventually lead to fragmentation of the internal market", he said while outlining he commission's programme for the year.

"The Community is lurching from wine war to turkey fight, to budget disputes. Restructuring of the steel industry is being slowed down because no one will willingly accept redundancies in regions already hard hit by he economic crisis".

Threats to the ideal of a single market were coming from all sides. "The single market is a priceless, irreplaceable asset", Mr Thorn said. "If it were destroyed the Community could not survive".

The bones of contention might appear trivial, but they were symptomatic of the difficulties now facing the Community which would not be solved by increasing doses of nationalism. He pinpointed "management of the milk sector, the trend of agricultural expenditure and technical details of measures to help the United Kingdom".

In the circulated text of his speech, Mr Thorn also said: "My fear is that these issues have proved intractable because they are simply a front for our EEC governments' waning commitment to europe". This was immediately interpreted by observers here as a criticism of the British demands.

Mr Thorn conceded that Britain's budget problem had been he biggest obstacle to fruitful discussions on the Community's future. "We should clear about the deadlock", he said. "To begin with, the economic crisis leaves nothing to spare in naional budgets and contributions to the Community budget are therefore viewed, rather shortsightedly, as a luxury to be kept for more prosperous times.

"There are also differences about the function of the EEC budget. It is not an equalization mechanism, designed to give back exactly what each has paid in, nor is ot strictly comparable to a national budget. . .

"Our first task must be to resolve the United Kingdom problem, though this must not lead to the admission of the *juste retour* principle, which would mean an end to solidarity between the member states."

The difficulty, he said, was that if compensation to the United Kingdom was financed solely from the Community's "own resources", virtually all the available margin would be used up.


Mr Thorn: he painted a depressing picture

Like the European Parliament, the Commission had never taken the view that the Community's future could be dictated by the 1 per cent limit on the revenue from value added tax. To do so, would be to accept stagnation.

But to increase budget resources to meet the British demand would mean persuading member states, national parliaments and public opinion that the Community had something to offer that was worth a further transfer of resources from the national to the Community budget.

"The Community is in danger", Mr Thorn said. "Within its frontiers, cohesion is compromised by the economic crisis which is rousing the old demons of protectonism, the illusion that salvation lies in going it alone.

"Outside, the Community is having to contend with the aggressive behaviour of its trading partners just when it should be working for the survival of traditional industries and promoting the rise of those which hold the key to industrial development in the future."

On the need for investment to create new opportunities for employment, Mr Thorn said it was, above all, a matter for private companies. "In most member states, rates of profitability are not high enough to provide the necessary incentive," he said.

Mrs Barbara Castle, leader of the Labour MEPs, later attacked this statement as being typical of the right-wing policies that emanated from the EEC Commission. They were based on the encouragement of the private sector at the expense of the living standards of working people.

Mr Thorn asked for a strengthening of the European Monetary System as an act ot solidarity and discipline.

Sir Henry Plumb, leader of the Conservative group of MEPs, immediately demanded action by the British Govenment.

"Continually we hear ministers saying that we shall join the EMS when the time is ripe", he said. "But when the pound is strong, it is not the right time. When it weakens, the time is not ripe. Therefore now is the time when I think we ought to be in there".

Farm ministers prepare for prices marathon

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Feb 16

The European Community's agricultural ministers prepared for a marathon price-fixing session here today, when they cancelled their next meeting and rearranged it to run parallel with the European summit meeting at the end of next month.

This means that the council has faced up to the reality that the price fixing is now inextricably linked with negotiations about Britain's budget contribution to the EEC.

Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, made it clear yesterday that he would oppose proposals for a 9 per cent increase in farm prices, and he made his point with such vehemence that none of his colleagues had any illusions that Britain would negotiate the two issues separately.

The new Agricultural Council dates are March 29-31, which means that the ministers will be meeting at the same time as the heads of government making it possible for the summit to monitor the concessions and progress being made.

Blocking agricultural prices is Britain's most powerful counter to obtain a satisfactory budget deal. Parallel agricultural and summit meetings were held in Luxembourg in 1980, shortly before Britain won important budgetary concessions from its partners.

At today's meeting Mr Walker returned to the attack on the way the common agricultural policy was working with a vigorous complaint about the manner in which France is seeking to pay national aids.

French plans to pay special subsidies to its farmers are "a ridiculous perversion of the whole trading position" inside the EEC, Mr Walker told his European colleagues.

Mr Walker said that he was alarmed by the fact that French farmers had been advised to apply for "a remarkable range" of help by March. The danger, he said, was that this would mean a repeat of last year's experience, when France paid out to its farmers before the Commission had time to rule whether the subsidies were legal under Community law.

Peking 'duck' for diligence

Peking, Feb 16. — Many Chinese employees are reluctant to be singled out as "model workers" for fear of being ridiculed and ostracized by their workmates, the Communist Party's *People's Daily* reported today.

The newspaper said that model workers, selected for their diligence, were frequently criticized as supermen devoid of human failings. But the situation had improved in the two years since soldiers and workers were scorned as toadies for saving a boy from drowning. — Reuter.

Bush fire alert in Tasmania

Hobart, Feb 16. — The Tasmanian Government today declared a special emergency because of bush fires. At least 5,000 firefighters were trying to put out blazes all over the island.

A thousand firemen were fighting to save the small townships of Kempton and Dysart from a fire along a six-mile front. There is no prospect of an end to the heat, low humidity and strong winds which have turned Tasmania into a tinder box. — Reuter.

Four cities, four crises ● The first in a major Times series

Last summer's riots in Brixton, Moss Side and Toxteth brought new fears into our city streets — and as summer 1982 approaches few are confident that they will not recur. Inner city riots, however, are just one ugly tip of Britain's urban crisis. As part of the debate on the wider problem The Times has chosen four places that sum up the special problems of our cities as a whole — unemployment, bad housing, racial tensions and one-party government.

Consider any list of British towns and cities: London, Plymouth, Southport, Swansea, Solihull, Poole, Coventry, East Kilbride, Doncaster, Rochdale Wodgate, West Bromwich, Manchester, Dundee, Glasgow. Urban Britain is diverse. There are good and prosperous cities as well as those in decline.

This list is based on a scheme put together two years ago by Professor David Donnison. Each place represents a category: regional service centres (Plymouth for example); residential suburbs (Solihull); engineering towns such as Doncaster and inner conurbations such as Manchester.

Donnison was searching for the formula that makes the good city — where people have jobs, skills, where households own cars and all the houses mod. cons.

The Times has chosen Coventry and Swansea which are, or rather were, relatively good cities; Glasgow and Manchester have obvious problems. None of these has uniform characteristics.

For example, there are concentrations of vulnerable old people in the otherwise advantaged resort towns such as Southport or Bournemouth. London is always a problem to classify: its proportion of non-whites is the highest of any urban area but as a whole it appears favoured in terms of the skills of its working population and the relative absence of social disruption among its families.

But any analysis of British urban conditions shows up Donnison's problem. It is easier to define the bad than the good city. A small number of fairly easily defined cities — inner conurbations — are under stress; their population is disproportionately vulnerable to poverty, joblessness and poor conditions of life. They are central



Scotland, Glasgow city and the conurbation from Greenock to Coatbridge (with the city of Dundee sharing many characteristics of the area); the inner areas of Birkenhead, Gateshead, South Shields, Sunderland, Bootle, Liverpool, Manchester, Salford, Newcastle, Nottingham, Birmingham, Hull and Leeds.

It was the discovery during the 1970s of the multiple incidence of social stresses in the inner city areas that spurred a great boom in public policy — a boom that with a pause has now, after the riots, resumed. Its beginnings should, perhaps, go back to Sir Harold Wilson's Urban Programme of 1968. The Heath Government, notably through Mr Peter Walker, began both a series of special grants and large-scale studies of the inner areas.

Then came Mr Peter Shore, Labour's Secretary of State for the Environment. In a speech at Manchester in September, 1976, he made a classic statement of the case for special urban policies. Mr Shore said: "Twentieth century civilization has been based upon cities and if, in the process of change, the inner areas are simply allowed to decay — and their inhabitants to languish — the country as a whole will be the poorer."

The doctrine is not, however, self-evident. Many people have looked at the scale of expenditure necessary to "solve" the problem of the inner cities and concluded that the task is impossible and that social and economic change should be allowed to take their course, with the Government cushioning those people most directly affected.

The Conservatives have especially to live with the Wodgate factor. Wodgate, of course, belongs to fiction or, more precisely put, to the Tory historical imagination, the vestigial fear of the possessing classes of a revolt by the poor and downtrodden.

Wodgate was a joke in Benjamin Disraeli's novel Sybil. But under the joke — about the brutalized *inhabitants of an industrial town* rising up and sacking an aristocratic mansion — lay a contemporary fear. The fear has not entirely gone. For many southern Conservatives, Toxteth is just as improbable and foreign as Wodgate was to Disraeli's reader. An obvious reaction to Toxteth and Brixton was a law and order response: sending in the modern equivalent of the dragoons. Instead the events were used, thanks in part to Mr Heseltine's sense of political timing, to revive the urban policy. Within major spending constraints, this is what Mr Heseltine has done: use all the administrative shots in the locker to do something, or be seen to be doing something for the cities.

David Walker

The fall of the New Jerusalem

1/MANCHESTER ● UNEMPLOYMENT

by Godfrey Hodgson

Twenty years ago you could take what I remember as a fourpenny bus ride from Manchester's Piccadilly into an essentially Victorian townscape of Lowry's paintings and Neville Cardus's boyhood.

Your bus to Moss Side would have trundled through smoke-blackened cotton warehouses on the fringe of the city centre, past seedy factories and workshops in Hulme, and then between neat but insanitary rows of crimson brick terraced houses. It was a dirty, shabby world, but crowded and busy.

That has all changed now. The smoke has blown away with the industry that caused it, and most days you can see the Pennines from the windows of any tall building. The Whitworth Street warehouses are empty, many of them converted into university laboratories.

You can drive in a couple of minutes on a new urban motorway through what are now the open green spaces of Hulme, punctuated by a few tower blocks, occupied mainly by students since the city's housing department saw the error of its ways and decreed that no families with children must live above the ground floor.

It would be an exaggeration to say that Moss Side today looks like a town-planner's vision of the radiant city. Still, the first impression is of a far from unpleasant environment.

The old back-to-back housing has almost all gone, though a few short slum streets survive near the Manchester City football ground and elsewhere. There is a smart, though much-vandalized Moss Side shopping centre, but long rows of old-fashioned shops, many of them now owned by Asians, still line Princess Road and Wilmslow Road.

Only here or there a gaunt Gothic church, a three-decker school or an ornate Victorian corner pub pokes its head above the curving patterns of squat, well-intentioned, low-density housing with its walled backed gardens and broad open spaces.

Yet this precise spot, where only a few years ago a proud planner might well have conducted a visiting commissar to show off what Britain was doing to heal the scars of the Industrial Revolution, was the storm centre of wild rioting last July.

It was on this corner, the Moss Side tribunal inquiry was told, that a police officer had to dive through a closed window to escape the mob. It was on this same green, the tribunal was also told, "all hell's breaking loose, the police are going mad, they are banging into people with their sticks". Not far away at the height of the trouble, a crowd of several hundred, both black and white, did their best to sack the local police station.

Behind the Moss Side problem, there is a Manchester problem. What is at stake is the future of one of the greatest cities in Britain. Mass unemployment is the symptom. The nature of the disease is that the present recession has halted the growth of service industry which was all Manchester had to compensate for the long decline of its manufacturing industry.

It is quite true that rates of unemployment in Moss Side are unbearably high. They are highest of all, too, for blacks and for young people — the two groups who provided most of the rioters.

Yet even so, unemployment in Moss Side is only comparatively worse than in other parts of Greater Manchester. And the general level of unemployment in the whole city, which for men is expected to remain close to 30 per cent for the rest of the decade, is in turn only a symptom of this deeper crisis: the stagnation in the economy of what until recently was one of the most prosperous cities in the country. In Newton Heath, for example, unemployment is now about 19 per cent whereas for the whole of the city of Manchester it is now 17 per cent.

Registered unemployment in Manchester, according to a report recently prepared by the city's planning department will be 19.5 per cent in 1985; *total* unemployment 23.6 per cent; *male* unemployment 29.5 per cent.

High as these projections sound, the report gives warning that "the most recent forecasts suggest that even these figures might be optimistic." "I firmly believe", says Colin Brierly, chairman of the city's planning committee, "that we are headed for a large pool of permanently unemployed."

The city of Manchester is no more than the biggest — and no longer even easily the biggest — of 10 boroughs that make up the new metropolitan county of Greater Manchester. It stretches from Broadhead Noddle, past Bottom o' the Moor, or — to the unromantic and the uninitiated — more than 25 miles from the first crest of the Pennine moors in the east to beyond Wigan in the flat central Lancashire plain to the West, and from the bleak fells above Bolton and Rochdale in the north to the pastoral Cheshire country near Knutsford, which was Mrs Gaskell's Cranford.

The city itself is a banana-shaped wedge running down through the middle of this great urban complex, between Salford on the west and Oldham on the east. It includes desolate slum clearance areas; the Victorian dignity, and the bustle and excitement, of the city centre; the vast university complex in Rusholme; decaying Victorian suburbs like Fallowfield; prosperous 1930s middle-class housing in Didsbury; the sprawling post-war housing estates of Wythenshawe; and a transatlantic world of motorways and modern factories round the airport in the deep south.

Over the past 20 years the population of the whole Greater Manchester pie has remained virtually static, drifting down from 2,700,000 to 2,600,000; even that modest fall is made up for by growth beyond the southern boundary. If you make it in Manchester, you move out to Cheshire.

The city wedge, in that time, has lost one-third of its population, from 662,000 to 449,000. But this abrupt fall in population is not the result of people voting with their feet against Manchester. In large part, it is the consequence of the city's deliberate policy.

Between 1951 and 1976 the council demolished 82,000 homes in the inner area and rehoused 250,000 people. This was the fulfilment of the Labour Party's long-cherished vision of a time when the dark, satanic city would pass away.

It was not so easy to build Jerusalem. Manchester originally wanted to build whole new towns, with their own facilities and their own jobs, at Lymm and Mobberley. Cheshire would not have that. Instead, the Manchester overspill went into isolated estates fitted in wherever land could be bought.

That was one of the seeds of the employment crisis. When the inner city slums were pulled down, jobs were destroyed along with the houses, and not all of them were replaced on the outskirts.

One of the biggest of the overspill estates is at Hattersley, grandly but impracticably sited on the escarpment of the moors on the southeastern rim of the city, in what is now the borough of Tameside.

Ten thousand people live on this one estate. It is a cheerless place at the best of times, and dismal when the mist creeps down from the moors and blots out the distant view of the Manchester skyscrapers.

Many of the families who live at Hattersley moved there from Hulme or Moss Side in the 1960s. In many respects, and in particular in terms of their prospects of finding a job, they are little, if at all, better off than those who stayed behind.

Manchester is not just an industrial town, threatened with the loss of its major industry, like Coventry, or a seaport whose trade has moved elsewhere, like Liverpool. The city's public relations department does not exaggerate (whatever they may feel in Leeds or Newcastle or Liverpool) when it boasts that Manchester is the "accepted capital" of the North of England.

For a hundred years it has been a great European "second city", fit to be compared with Hambourg or Milan or Barcelona. The question now is how long it will be able to hold on to that rank.

It is a transport hub, with a better system of urban motorways than London and a major international airport. It is an exciting city for sport, for music, and for the theatre. It supports two symphony orchestras, two important theatres and a "fringe", excellent restaurants, fashionable discos.

It is second only to London as a centre of higher education, with three universities (Manchester itself, UMIST and Salford) as well as a big Poly, the Royal Northern College of Music, the business school, the National Computing Centre and the biggest medical school in western Europe.

As a result it is a magnet for young people. Over 26 percent of the population is between 15 and 29, against less than 22 per cent nationally. Until recently, in fact, Manchester was doing just what established cities in developed countries must do: it was moving out of manufacturing into services.

Suddenly that recipe has gone sour. With a severe cyclical recession superimposed on the downward trend in manufacturing, the disappearance of jobs in industry has accelerated sharply. At the same moment, partly because of the recession, but also partly because of the Government's public expenditure cuts, the compensating growth in service jobs has stopped short. The effect has been rather as if the city's economy has suddenly hit a brick wall.

The chief executive of the Greater Manchester Council expects that 10 years from now the county will have about 230,000 fewer jobs than people looking for them. And even that figure is calculated on what could well turn out to be over-optimistic assumptions: that the economy as a whole will pull out of recession, that manufacturing will decline no faster than in the 1970s; and that service employment will remain buoyant.

In Manchester, as elsewhere, part of the cause of this decline has been a poor rate of investment. Manchester has had far less than the national average of investment in manufacturing industry: £77 per head, as against £152 in Wales and £186 in the North. One reason for this is the large porportion of all investment in manufacturing in Britain that has been subsidized by government.

Under regional development grants, in 1979-80, Manchester received only £3.70 per capita, against £50.60 for Wales and £70.90 for Merseyside. And Manchester is scheduled to lose all development grants from central government when it loses assisted-area status this year. Officials are specially bitter that this will also mean losing any hope of regional development funds from the European Community.

There is a certain rough justice in this, though. Manchester is no worse off than other great British cities. It is far better off than some. What the Moss Side rioting revealed was that, apart from the specific local pressures crowding in on an inner city neighbourhood with a high concentration of black people and of other groups with special problems, Manchester, too, even relatively prosperous Manchester, is going through an urban crisis.

NEXT WEEK
Glasgow: towards a housing solution


Brian Harris

Fading future of the man from Moss Side

Last October Charlie Jackson, aged 53, was made redundant by Phillips, the Manchester clothing machine manufacturers, and has been unemployed ever since. For his eight years' service he received £1,200: "I still feel very bitter, the company just wanted to get rid of the old 'uns." He now lives on £69.92 unemployment benefit every two weeks and draws from his redundancy money every other week to get by. His chances of finding a job are slim. When he last applied for work at Kipling Cakes there were 500 competitors for the two vacancies.

Wasted land, wasted lives

by David Walker

All metropolitan areas are losing manufacturing jobs which are not being replaced by growth in other sectors. The adaptability of private business has either withered from within or been crushed from without. New entrepreneurs in the shape of committees of one public agency or another have had insufficient flair or their taxing power has been limited.

The result is an absolute and relative increase in big city unemployment. In 1970 Manchester's unemployment was 85 per cent of the rate in the whole of Britain; it was the same as Britain's in 1975; it is now more than 106 per cent of the national rate.

The inner urban cores have been losing jobs for 20 or more years, but with the mass unemployment of recent years differences blur.

Results from the 1981 Census have not yet been processed. When they are, the trends in employment evident between the censuses of 1961 and 1971 will certainly be shown continuing into the past decade and accelerating. In the 1960s manufacturing jobs decreased in number by 18 per cent on Clydeside, by 20 per cent in the Manchester area, by 9 per cent Merseyside (where manufacturing has never been as important as in the other conurbations), by 10 per cent in the West Midlands, and by 16 per cent in the Leeds-Bradford conurbation. Manufacturing jobs grew by 10.5 per cent in the rest of Britain over the decade.

Manufacturing jobs were not replaced by work in transport or distribution or mining or construction; these sectors were in decline, too. Growth occurred, but not everywhere, in what the Standard Industrial Classification calls "other services". Growing by more than 20 per cent in the decade 1961-71 in all conurbations except Merseyside and Greater London, these were jobs in insurance, banking, the professions and public administration.

The decline in manufacturing has been most marked in the inner urban areas. Planners, socialist city councillors and international capitalists have often seemed to be working to the same end: killing inner city jobs. The councillors first bulldozed everything in sight, including cheap business premises; later their antagonism to business enterprise showed itself in planning restrictions and high property rates.

New plants opened not in the cities but on the fringes, out by the motorway box or in the new towns, planned and paid for when decentralization was all the rage. New firms did not replace those that closed.

According to a survey by Department of the Environment officials, "Many factors have contributed to the low level of creation of new firms in the inner areas. Government planning policies have clearly played their part, but many firms in the newer, more mobile industries find that the depressing and deteriorating environment, high land values, scarcity of large sites, lack of appropriately-skilled local labour, and the problems of access, congestion, vandalism and crime are deterrents."

That was written before Toxteth. Liverpool is notorious for the low level of qualifications among its school-leavers and other cities share the problem. For the English inner city areas unskilled workers among all males of working age were 175 per cent of the proportion for the country as a whole in the mid-1960s.

By the end of the 1970s the figure had risen to 200 per cent. The inner city formula is waste land — some estimates define 12 per cent of city land area as derelict or vacant — plus waste people.

Population

	1971	1981	%
Coventry	334,180	310,216	– 7.2
Manchester	534,511	437,663	–18.1
Swansea	185,981	183,484	– 1.3
Glasgow	982,317	763,162	–22

Source: Census of Population

Unemployment

	Percentage April 1979	% December 1981
Coventry	6.2	15.7
Manchester	5.3	12.7
Swansea	6.9	15.5
Glasgow	8.6	15.8
Great Britain average	5.4	12.0

Source: Department of Employment

Theatre

Poetic debate

Hours of Life

King's Head

Before the next version of *La Ronde* arrives on the scene, here is a welcome glimpse of a very different aspect of Arthur Schnitzler. *Hours of Life*, the first play of a 1902 cycle on attitudes to life and death, consists of a debate between the son and lover of a dead woman. The son is a poet, the lover a retired official; and, as practically all we learn about the woman is that she committed suicide for the sake of her son's work, the geneal impression is of a circular argument on the unprofitable theme of art versus life.

However, all the detail in Peter Tegel's translation contradicts that impression. First, there is the garden setting—a neutral zone, midway between creativity and office routine. Then there is the fact that Anton, the official, couples his hostility towards art with a strong sense of his own insignificance. Also, as an old man in a respectable job, he first seems to represent conventional morality; whereas it is he who has had the clandestine relationship and the young poet who shoulders the weight of family responsibility.

The lovers met in the garden. The poet looked after his mother at home. Would old Anton feel so bitter about losing her if it meant not simply "an hour of life" with her in the garden, but listening to her coughing through the wall for night after night?

Schnitzler drops in such questions unobtrusively and stealthily introduces his characters' biographies so as to set up preconceptions and then demolish them. The central duel is forecast in an opening scene with the old gardener (Leslie Glazer) describing his disagreements with an arrogant newcomer to the trade. In Vladimir Mirodan's midday production, Joseph O'Connor sits absent-mindedly through this rigmarole, looking every inch a bitterly bereaved husband — a feeling initially confirmed by the arrival of Alan Coveney, in full poetic uniform, to describe his attempts to cure his grief by visiting the best art galleries in Europe. The facts of the relationship then start coming out; and we find the aggressive Anton asking the boy for forgiveness, and the inoffensive boy finally accusing him of betrayal for disclosing the suicide note.

There is not much depth in Mr Coveney's performance; but, behind all Mr O'Connor's denunciations of the unfeeling, blood-sucking artistic community, there is a complex charge of guilt, affection and respect for the artist.

Irving Wardle

Cinema: Berlin Festival

A vogue for the avenging sword



"The Shimoyama Case": detailed re-creation of post-war turmoil

Now in its thirty-second edition, the Berlin International Film Festival is today a triumph of the computer. It runs with an awe-inspiring efficiency unparalled at any other festival. Films show up, and screen on schedule. Accreditations, hotels, tickets and all the other daily anxieties of festival-going are ordered without any of the queuing and battles that seem indispensable elsewhere.

The element of human fallibility is overcome, indeed, in every respect but one: computers have no control over the availability and selection of films. The first days of Berlin have certainly brought no winners. The best picture so far, Bernard Tavernier's *Coup de Torchon*, is not in competition. Based on Jim Thompson's novel *Pop 1280*, it is set in a rotting colonial outpost in French West Africa just before the Second World War. Philippe Noiret plays the ignorant, incompetent and cowardly police chief who suddenly awakens to the cleansing possibilities of murder. The film is richly atmospheric, evoking the arid land and killing boredom, and the superficial manner of old-style French character comedy (Tavernier's co-writer was Jean Aurenche) gives piquancy to the underlying brutality of the film's message.

The theme of the swift avenging sword is currently rather in vogue. It appears again in the Swedish entry, *The Simple-minded Murder*, written and directed by Hans Alfredson, who also plays the wicked landlord who drives the good, simple-minded hero to his act of vengeance. It is an amiable film, with an old familiar Scandinavian blend of social deprivation and religious mysticism. The slight problem is to know how seriously Alfredson intends us to take the gorgeously apparelled avenging angels (they include Bjorn Andreson, the boy from *Death in Venice*) who stride through the town at the heels of the simpleton.

The influence of Costa Gavras, Francesco Rosi and their "investigative" cinema continues strong. In this genre there is little to be said in favour of Henri Verneuil's *Mille Milliards de Dollars*, a dull film about a journalist investigating the frauds of multi-national corporations.

A Japanese film, Ken Kumai's *The Shimoyama Case* (or "Wilful Murder", or "Dirty Tricks": the title seems undecided), is a more interesting example of the style, on account of the detail it brings to its recreation of an event of the post-war turmoil. In 1949 the head of the state railways is found dead on the tracks, days after a massive lay-off of his workers. Kumai's hero is a journalist (as usual) pursuing the case for more than a decade in order to disprove the official verdict, and show the death as a murder instigated by the American-backed political right to discredit the far left. It is rough, contentious and a great deal more absorbing than many a more elegant film.

David Robinson

Television

Family in ferment

Too Late to Talk to Billy, BBC 1's Play for Today last night, was as bruising a drama as I have seen: unremitting gloom punctuated by violence and the sound of parting family relationships, a whole field of research, for R. D. Laing perhaps, compressed within a terraced house. It was J. Graham Reid's first play for television, though he has written four stage plays, and two more are to be shown this year. I shall gather myself to sustain grievous mental harm.

This one was set in Belfast, inessential to the plot but obviously chosen because Reid, whose home town it is, knows its sounds and scenes and feels its sadness. The Martin family, on whom he focuses, is fragmented not by sectarian differences but the divisiveness of a wounded, inarticulate love.

Father Norman, a man of powerful frame and emotions, neither believing in nor fearful of God or the UDA, has, we discover in flashbacks, some years previously discovered his wife Janet in dalliance with an insurance salesman. Both suffered his wrath and, since then, mother and father have seen each other across a seemingly unbridgeable chasm with their four children aware of it but only the elder two capable of any kind of comprehension.

Norman's problem is that violence is the only form of emotional expression which comes easily to him, and drink only produces a brief, maudlin respite. At the start of the play, Janet is dying of cancer and Norman cannot allow his love to vanquish his pride and visit her. Elder daughter Lorna tries to hold the family together, keep father and son Billy, who has his father's strength and fearlessness, apart, and solace the two small girls.

It is an impossible, dangerous task. Norman cannot accept affection despite his need. An attempt to communicate with Billy ends in a brutal fight. Mother dies with father too late at the bedside but having realized that his absence at a job in England gives the best chance of family harmony.

He parts from son Billy, repulsed in an attempted embrace, in a kind of armistice and leaves the family to restore the image of their parents' lost unity, their wedding picture to the mantlepiece — "the only way we can all be together in this house".

It was a punishing but salutary essay on family life in ferment, exceptionally performed by a Northern Irish cast headed by James Ellis, who made Norman a fearful reality. The gritty, nasal Ulster accent gave it moments of inevitable incomprehensibility. Maggie Shevlin was Janet; Kenneth Branagh, Billy; Brid Brennan, Lorna; Mary Jackson, Billy's girl-friend; Colum Convey, his friend; and Aine Gorman and Tracey Lynch were his small sisters.

The executive producer was Neil Zeiger, the producer Chris Parr; Paul Seed directed with pace and force.

Dennis Hackett

Opera

Real people in vibrant vision

Cosi fan tutte

Metropolitan Opera, New York

In 1951 the Metropolitan Opera re-introduced its audiences to *Cosi fan tutte* via the celebrated English-language Alfred Lunt production. Thirty years later, it has replaced that version with a new one cunningly set and adeptly staged, so that Mozart's endless melodies and the opera's delicate balance between life and artifice are enhanced and enshrined.

The Met's very size may militate against that intimacy which *Cosi* should ideally have, but its acoustics are such that soft, expressive singing, when adequately projected, is always not only audible but dominating. And this production blessedly gave the audience yards of such gracefully rich subtlety, from the singers and from the orchestra, tamped down and shaped by James Levine. He conducted a fluid, lithe reading still a bit rough at the edges, which needs to settle into the kind of naturally-produced tempo relationships over the long span that are the hallmark of the best Mozart conducting. Yet Levine's constant attention to dynamics and pacing invigorated everything on stage, and constituted some of his strongest work in the house this season.

The cast were well chosen, both as to voices and physical types, and produced a Mozartian ensemble vocalism of unified beauty of tone. Kiri Te Kanawa's magisterial Fiordiligi at once so vocally commanding yet so softly vulnerable — rightly brought down the house. If she treats her lower voice, here clinically examined by Mozart's writing, with a gingerly restraint, she displays a power and a creaminess in the upper register that more than compensates. One might wish for a shade more élan and daring to go with her intelligence, and a bit more firmness at the end of phrases, but that is nit-picking: she graces, once again, the house with her presence.

Maria Ewing as Dorabella provided the perfect contrast. Here is an outstanding natural comedienne, both vocally and histrionically, who can colour her chest register so that each word emerges with a quizzical edge. Yet comedy never overwhelms humanity: her "Smanie implacabili" balanced exaggeration with tenderness, her second-act duet with Guglielmo pulsed with awakened emotions, and her handling of recitatives was ever masterly. She has emerged as a major artist.

The men were similarly contrasted. David Rendall's flexible light tenor glided almost effortlessly over the notes, and he handled the tessitura of "Ah lo veggio" with the ease of a butterfly among violets. James Morris's dark bass-baritone is the current preference for the role of Guglielmo (rather than a light lyric), but the wonder of his large, somewhat rough voice — used for such roles as Claggart in *Billy Budd* or Boris Godunov — is that, although it can cannon out, it can also be reined in for superior Mozart ensemble singing, while its masculine power counts for a great deal in the second act. Kathleen Battle's bright and pointed soprano made an exemplary Despina, although the inbuilt clichés of that role, combined with the fact that she is black, gave her servant the aura of those sassy Negro maids of 1930s comedies. Donald Gramm was his usual urbane and imperturbable self as Alfonso.

As with most *Cosi* productions, this one reduced the size of the stage by means of a false proscenium, with its own curtain, and a raked playing area. Yet the designer Hayden Griffin's use of movable screens, enclosing and revealing, and a battery of servants to keep the flow of the opera continuous, was entirely appropriate, as was the contrast between the brightly-painted foliage and background Vesuvius (seen smoking in the second act) of the outdoors (which in its *trompe-l'oeil* effect of doors opening through trees recalled the paintings of Magritte) and the soft patternings of the interiors. This was inventive setting in unobtrusive guise, and solved many of the problems this opera raises.

Colin Graham's staging was basically realistic, in keeping with today's view of *Cosi*, and never veered into slapstick or buffoonery. The men as Albanians were barely disguised — the question as to why the ladies never recognized them was not addressed — while, in the final scene, the two men never re-donned their costumes for the final revelation.

Graham carried the idea of real people in real emotional situations to its logical conclusion by having the lovers, finally, pair off as they did in the second act, and not go back to their original paramours. This is more a trendy than a satisfactory solution, but understandable given the orientation of the production. If Graham used his servants fussily, having them peer around corners of the screens at odd intervals, his staging had the real merit of the negative virtues: nothing in excess, and humanity glowing through the disguises and the plot constructs as Mozart glows through the words and story of Da Ponte.

One arresting vocal moment (which is in the score) typified the evening: the *subito piano* in Fiordiligi's "Come scoglio" at the word "tempesta" when she looks at, and almost recognizes, Guglielmo. That moment encapsulated the ambiguities of this supreme score of mask and face, of comedy and wisdom, which was brought to such vibrant musical life on the stage of the Met.

Patrick J. Smith



The magisterial Kiri Te Kanawa (left) with Kathleen Battle

Pop music

Shalamar

The Venue

Initially vilified by those who could hear no further than the Bee Gees' score for *Saturday Night Fever*, disco music has turned out to be the most serious and profound evolution in popular music since the invention of rock and roll. Even the intellectuals have capitulated: indeed, *some* of the more perceptive among them were the first to recognize the potential of this new musical Esperanto.

Perhaps, in the end, disco will earn its place in musicological studies more through the achievements of those who adapted it — August Darnell and Stony Browder, Nile Rodgers and Bernard Edwards, David Byrne and Brian Eno, Bjorn Ulvaeus and Benny Andersson — than via the hard core of singers, musicians and producers who delivered the music to its original audience on the dance floor. It is difficult, for example, to imagine posterity embracing the collected work of the artists who appear on the Solar label, which, by virtue of its consistent ability to manufacture best-sellers, constitutes a mini-Motown for the Eighties.

Shalamar, three singers fronting a seven-piece band, are Solar's most successful outfit. Their 90-minute set on Monday night was an efficient production set firmly in the mode established by various Motown artists in the late 1960s, combining the funk of Sly Stone, the flamboyance of Jimi Hendrix and the gushing insincerity of Las Vegas.

Of the trio, Howard Hewett has a serviceable tenor, with a graceful transition to the falsetto register, and Jody Watley's husky soprano is reminiscent of the young Diana Ross. Despite the energy of their drummer, Tony Wesker, and their percussionist, Danny Floyd, mundane songs like "The Second Time Around", "Full of Fire" and "Make that Move" seemed interminable. Only an unannounced medium-tempo ballad stood out, allowing Hewett to vamp imaginatively over well-arranged background harmonies; amazingly, they chose *not to perform* "Take that to the Bank", their best-known song.

Richard Williams

Interview: Edward Cowie

Explosion of musical ideas

The New Opera Company, which grew out of the Cambridge University Opera Group, tonight at Sadler's Wells celebrates 25 years of more than 40 productions of contemporary opera, from Arthur Benjamin's *Tale of Two Cities* to Szymanowski's *King Roger* and, most recently, *The Italian Straw Hat* and *Julietta* at the Coliseum.

Vaughan Williams, whose *Sir John in Love* the group first performed at Cambridge, was instrumental in the early history of the company, energetically encouraging its promotion of new English operas. Now Edward Cowie is benefiting from the company's continuing existence. Originally written for and performed at the State Opera in Kassel when Cowie was guest professor at the university there in 1979, his "fantasy opera" *Commedia* was spotted by Leon Lovett, the New Opera Company's music director, and its British première this evening will be a particular kind of celebration for Cowie too.

It comes at a fruitful time in his composing life: a fortnight ago, his Concerto for Orchestra was premièred in Liverpool, and during the last year he has written four preparatory pieces for a new opera, a group of Wyatt madrigals, a choral symphony for the Leeds Festival and a new work for chamber orchestra. *Commedia*, written between 1974 and 1978, is seen by Cowie as a kind of catalyst.

"I went through a long period of very self-conscious composition, of thinking about my status in the avant garde and about contemporary musical thought. And with two different kinds of teacher — Fricker and Lutoslawski who worked on my emotional make-up and Alexander Goehr who worked more systematically on serialism — I went through 10 years of writing either ultra-serial music or very rampant tonal romantic work. I suddenly decided I'd have to start *listening* to what I wanted to write and become more passive, not letting my thinking dominate my fantasy. The moment that happened there was a great explosion of musical ideas, one of the first of which was *Commedia*."

The tensions between improvisation and fixed plot within the pre-Goldoni *commedia dell' arte* — a form which has fascinated Cowie ever since, as a student, he acted the part of Pantalone — and then the opportunities for dramatic interfertilization between its stock characters and situations and the rhythms and order of the natural world (with which Cowie as ornithologist and naturalist is equally obsessed) provided him with both a musical and a dramatic focus for his compositional energies.

Cowie's music and his conversation are shot through with Tippettisms ("the music turns on its dark side," I caught him musing); and *Commedia* itself, with its archetypal characters, cycle of seasons, ritual dances, begs easy comparison with *The Midsummer Marriage*. But in theatrical terms Cowie feels they work in opposite ways.

Cowie's work as a painter surrounds him with a vocabulary which at times can obfuscate as much as illuminate his verbal articulation of purely musical ideas — which, in the end, as he admits, have to speak for themselves. But it does mean he knows just what he wants from his designer and director. He chose Aldous Eveleigh as designer after working with him on a *commedia dell' arte* in 1969. "I watched him dream up Aztec and Inca imagery long before he'd actually been to Peru, and I was convinced that was the sort of primeval, naturally chromatic backdrop I wanted."

David Freeman, whose experimental and improvisatory work with Opera Factory has been so much in evidence over the last six months, was a natural choice for director. "Michael Geliot [who directed in Kassel] had a special vision of the work's timelessness. But what I look forward to in David is his exploration of the sensual, erotic complexities of the work. And he will, I think, try to articulate some of the work's classicism — I've thought a lot about Mozart and *The Magic Flute* in this work — as well as its inherent modernism."

Hilary Finch



Cowie (right) at work in the recording studio

Concerts

Bruckner's noble sense of proportion

Bournemouth SO/ Segal

Festival Hall

Even in the pro-Bruckner musical climate of today, his fifth symphony is something of a Cinderella, and gratitude is due to Uri Segal and the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra for bringing a carefully prepared interpretation up to London's South Bank on Monday. They preceded it with Mussorgsky's hair-raising *Songs and Dances of Death*, sung by Benjamin Luxon in Shostakovich's transcription for voice and orchestra.

Audiences, maliciously brainwashed into fear of counterpoint and fugue as cerebral academic exercises, shy away from Bruckner 5, because every commentator draws attention to its exploits in those accomplishments. They are not dry, but dramatic, just as the fugues of Bach and Beethoven and Brahms are dramatic. When Bruckner exercises his mastery in the finale of No 5, the least academic listener feels tension rise alarmingly, and the hairs on the nape of the neck bristle.

Bruckner 5 is no remote symphonic exercise, but a living music drama: yet it *is* not, like some other Bruckner symphonies, so much about jolly peasants, or Austrian scenery, as about music itself, the voice of God apprehended by Bruckner, if you like, the music of the spheres.

Wagner, Bruckner's idol, wanted audiences to abandon themselves to his music. You can do worse than that, listening to a Bruckner symphony, though No 5 expects some degree of audience participation, active pursuit by ear of the musical argument in which the emotional content, uplifting and enthralling, is carried out.

Bruckner was a pure Viennese classic at heart, the heir of Haydn and Schubert. For that he is nowadays loved and for his romantic para-Wagnerian emotionalism. Segal honourably opted for the classical, unsultry style. The proportions were nobly and precisely delineated, the emotional contents never left in doubt, all the same; the symphony also exercised the new, increasingly substantial capability of his Bournemouth orchestra, already a band moving purposefully into a higher league.

I enjoyed it for its underplayed pomp, care for instrumental colour and due proportion, and the clean articulation of musical sentences. Luxon sang the Mussorgsky songs scrupulously, without exaggeration or any mimicry of, say, Chaliapin, using his own flexible baritone voice to vivify words and music.

William Mann

Infectious atmosphere of discovery

Endellion Quartet

Purcell Room

I hope the sight and sound of a large and enthusiastic audience on Monday will not encourage the Endellion Quartet to move into larger halls. Of course they fully deserve their growing success, but quartets are best heard at close hand, especially quartets as lively as this.

Still young in their career together, they fully enjoy their music-making, yet not in that coy, clubby way that keeps the listener at a distance; instead they invite one to share with them in the surprise and pleasure they find in what they play. Their sound, too, is fresh in its openness and immediate in its flexibility, for they are not afraid to sound raw, as at the start of the finale of the Ravel Quartet or in the ruder parts of Beethoven's E minor, nor are they too sophisticated to indulge in the occasional moment of pure sugar.

So infectious was the atmosphere of keen discovery that I found myself caught unawares when Schubert's C minor Quartet did not continue into a second movement, and amazed also by such things in the Ravel as the dissonant counterpoint for pairs of instruments or the extreme business of the thematic working. More harmonic ensembles tend to veil detail here in yards of satin, but the Endellion made everything as new, as they did also in the "Rasumovsky", reliving all its insistence, playfulness, comedy and drive, though proving themselves children of their time in finding it difficult to hold the long breaths needed for the Adagio.

Between Ravel and Beethoven they gave us more John Foulds, his *Aquarelles*, pleasant little sketches and distinctive, but not by any means on the level of the *Quartetto intimo* this quartet recently recorded. That record shows Foulds's true stature, and the Endellion's.

Paul Griffiths

Youri Egorov

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Youri Egorov's change of programme at a few days' notice was perhaps typical of this young Russian pianist's artistic perfectionism and fastidiousness, a determination to play the right music at the right time, which can even result in a recital being cancelled if he feels unready for it.

From the first of his 12 Chopin Etudes, its progress massively powerful yet stridingly energetic, it was clear that both he and we were, indeed, in the right place at the right time. Here and in the second and fifth Etudes in particular, a perfectly and excitingly suspended balance of power between hands gave the music fresh impetus, released as a scampering, bounding vitality in the eighth.

More rewarding musically than his not always deeply penetrating exploration of the individual character of each study was the strong unified sense of the cycle as a whole. Mr Egorov gave it a rare momentum, tensely generated and sustained by a shifting and interfusion between the harmonic searching and uncertainty he uncovered in No 6 and that fevered energy that almost sweated itself out of No 10.

Where in the Chopin Mr Egorov's confidence broadened his vision while still leaving him with the surplus nervous energy of spontaneity, his Debussy preludes (Book Two, not Book One as advertised) tended to be weakened by over-cultivation. Here again was the ease of execution, the nicely scaled dynamics, the beauty of finely nuanced tone; but too much had been fined down too soon. One longed for a sense of the joy of a work of art in progress, for the dancing figures to spring from their friezes, and for a greater sense of expectancy and the unexpected even amongst the exquisite artifice of "Feux d'artifice".

Hilary Finch

Four voices from the West: Willy Brandt, West German Chancellor, 1969-74, continues the debate

Stop this defeatist talk about Nato

Bonn

Doubts about Nato's future and cohesion have become quite a lasting vogue. With infallible regularity it is predicted that the alliance will collapse, leaving Europe defenceless in the face of all-powerful communism.

In the past few months, accusations to this effect have been directed mainly at West Germany. It is suspected of renouncing basic western convictions and clandestinely seeking an accommodation with the Soviet Union, lured by the appeal of German reunification.

In effect, the concerns about the future of the alliance constitute a kind of phantom battle. Nato is militarily intact and capable of political action. There can be no question of an actual crisis comparable to that caused by De Gaulle when he decided on withdrawal from the alliance's military integration.

In West Germany the need for Nato is almost undisputed. Unlike the situation in several other member countries, there is virtually no significant political force here which calls Nato into question. "The Atlantic Alliance with the military presence of the United States in Europe is indispensable for the Federal Republic's external security and its capacity for political action". This sentence is contained in a resolution drafted by the executive of the Social Democratic Party for the party congress in April.

What then is actually happening? It is rather the opposite of what is being talked about so much, especially in America: West Germany and other European allies want to maintain Nato's long-standing basic policy: the preservation of a defence capability, and detente coupled with the quest for balanced disarmament.

Dispute, therefore, is over the alliance's political principles. This is serious, perhaps, but natural, and by no means a threat to its existence.

The spectres which cause some people to fear that Nato's existence is actually in jeopardy are unilateral disarmament, neutralism, and anti-Americanism, possibly combined with pro-Soviet tendencies. This is an allusion to the German "peace movement" of last autumn and the West German Government's stance on Poland.

As far as unilateral disarmament is concerned, only a tiny minority of people in this country, and certainly no political forces of any importance, consider it a feasible idea. But many people are worried about peace and are pressing for disarmament. With a few insignificant exceptions, these people are neither communist puppets nor pro-Soviet in their outlook. Rather, they are essentially in agreement with the Social Democratic Party and the trade unions, indeed with the vast majority of the people, that the dangerous folly of the continuing arms race must be stopped.

The superpowers must negotiate a mutually acceptable form of equilibrium attained by disarmament.

As for neutralism, I do not know of anyone in West Germany with any political influence who advocates a separate course for Germany outside the alliance. And as for the alleged new nationalism, it simply does not exist. Even the few intellectuals who are in favour of dissolving the power blocs in a first step want to see peace safeguarded and not a powerful non-aligned Germany.

Incidentally, the fact that members of a divided nation occasionally ponder on the prospects for overcoming that division should not surprise anyone, least of all those powers who for decades also subscribed to German reunification as a goal of European politics. But almost all of them know that this goal could move into reach only after a very long period of detente and disarmament, and only with the approval of the four erstwhile victorious powers and the nations of Europe.

Finally, the reaction to events in Poland: in Germany, solidarity with the Polish trade unionists is very deep. Deeper than some people in other countries believe. We have received by far the most of the Poles who left their country after the downfall of Mr Gierek. Since December 13 people in this country have sent more than two million relief parcels to Poland. But the Government, the parties constituting it and the vast majority of Germans do not think much of talk and threats, nor of a kind of loud moralizing.





Not only would that be of no use, least of all to the Poles, but it could impair the prospects for peace. The elimination of tensions is vital — otherwise disarmament talks have no chance of success, and peace no perspective.

Can this attitude be construed as a betrayal of the Poles? Definitely not: it is not a case of "Poland or peace" — peace is equally vital to the Poles and only if the policy of detente is continued will our joint Western demand for normalization in Poland have any prospects of success.

If a path towards greater freedom and democracy still exists in Poland, we must not obstruct it by creating a cold war atmosphere. Detente is always based on reciprocity: as long as the other side is interested in detente it will be willing to pay a price to preserve it. Thus what we have here is not a pro-Soviet attitude but a policy marked by a common interest in preserving peace also for Poland's benefit.

The future of the Western Alliance is not a matter of doubt; it is not being questioned by the Germans.

What is involved is not the existence of Nato but the principles of its policy.

This policy combines the concepts of military equilibrium, political detente and balanced disarmament. In Germany the active pursuit of these goals is called peace policy.

Ever since the development of strategic nuclear weapons, military confrontation has become global — in three respects:

● These weapons are a threat to all the countries concerned.

● They are a potential threat to any point on the globe.

● They are a total threat to any political adversary, meaning that they threaten his very existence.

In this sense interdependence exists: It is ice-cold and, as it were, negative form of interdependence. Transforming this ice-cold interdependence — keeping each other at bay, so to speak — into a positive and constructive type of interdependence is the purpose of the policy of detente. This policy accepts existing realities, including the alliances, and does not seek to change the balance of power by force. Its aim is a reconciliation of interests and co-operation in political and economic matters. Its aim is to preserve the independence of smaller members of alliances as well as the overriding security interests.

In all these respects detente policy is also directly peace policy. It not only tries to reduce conflicts by reconciling different interests and hence to prevent the causes of war. It also takes account of the aforementioned military form of interdependence: it knows that security, the basic goal of military defence, can no longer be achieved through supremacy, but only through cooperation.

Today both elements of peace policy — deterrence and detente — are in jeopardy. In global confrontation there is inevitably the tendency to bypass the opponent's military potential and strike at his substance, for instance economically by a strategy of "arming oneself to death". But anyone who speculates on his opponent collapsing from within is toying with the idea of a victory which would be similar to a military victory and might trigger off a corresponding reaction.

On the other hand, arms technology has progressed to a point where before long there will be weapons — some people feel they already exist — which are so "small" and accurate that there might be a tendency to use them for a regionally limited conflict. The temptation to aspire to supremacy — a truly dangerous temptation — has thus been brought closer again.

This is a fatal and possibly a suicidal course. When asking whether peace policy can be continued, much more than detente is at stake. We now need effective arms limitation and genuine disarmament more urgently than ever before.

It is hoped that people will not look in vain to the talks in Geneva.

I should like to finish with a quotation:

"What kind of peace do I mean? What kind of peace do we seek? Not a *Pax Americana* enforced on the world by American weapons of war. Not the peace of the grave or the security of the slave. I am talking about genuine peace, the kind of peace that makes life on earth worth living, the kind that enables men and nations to grow and to hope and to build a better life for their children. Not merely peace for Americans but for all men and women — I speak of peace because of the new face of war.

"It makes no sense in an age when the deadly poisons produced by a nuclear exchange would be carried by wind and water and soil and seed to the far corners of the globe and to generations yet unborn. Genuine peace must be the product of many nations, the sum of many acts. It must be dynamic, not static, changing to meet the challenge of each new generation.

"For peace is a process — a way of solving problems. For we can seek a relaxation of tensions without relaxing our guard. And, for our part, we do not need to use threats to prove that we are resolute."

The American who said this was President John F. Kennedy. He did so in 1963 and was talking about shaping the future, Nato's future, too.

Tomorrow: Maurice Couve de Murville

Henry Fairlie

Too many duds on the campus

A few days before President Reagan revealed his budget proposals, a coalition of 12 groups called the Action Committee for Higher Education, already knowing what the proposals would mean for their members, launched a lobbying campaign as intense as that conducted by any other industry. And why not? Higher education in America is an industry that manages to spend almost $60,000m a year.

The day after its press conference, the *Washington Post* carried a half-page news story from Cambridge — in England, that is, not Massachusetts — which bore the menacing headline, "Thatcher's budget axe threatening *deep cutbacks* at universities". It reported the same kinds of protests there as are beginning here. Who says that the special relationship is not flourishing when the hands of so many nervous dons are joined across the seas?

The cuts in financial aid to students which Mr Reagan now proposes are certainly deep. Whether one considers them also to be savage depends on what one thinks of the higher education system in America as it has developed in the last 20 years. One of its undeniable benefits is that many teachers who ought not to be teaching are able to live comfortably off the aid given to many students who do not deserve to be taught.

The General Accounting Office (GAO) last year presented to Congress a report on the actual working of the student aid programmes. Its examples included a student at State Community College in East St Louis, Illinois, who received $8,400 in seven years while completing only 35 of 215 required credit hours. She took the same speech course eight times and the same sociology course five times. She passed in neither of them.

A student at Boise State University in Idaho who received more than $4,200 in federal aid was granted a degree in social science after taking 13 physical education courses. These included "coed bowling", "coed billiards", and even "coed jogging"! He did best in two independent study courses on "sexuality and the male athlete" and "behaviour of the Christian and non-Christian child". His final marks were 4 Fs and 11 Ds. The state university gave him a degree.

Of course the standards in the some 3,000 universities and colleges in America are not uniform. Anyone who has lectured for his ill-earned honorarium at many of the smaller private colleges must wonder how they were ever accredited as institutions of higher education. Yet they have benefited as much as anyone in increased revenues

The substantial expansion of the student populations was the work largely of the GI Bill after the Second World War. The enrolment in higher education in Illinois — as suitable a state as any to take as an example—rose from 107,000 in 1940 to 156,000 in 1956. This was modest enough, given the circumstances, and standards were surprisingly maintained. That imaginative expansion is not seriously criticized by anyone.

It is interesting, in fact, that of the three agencies which administer the financial aid to students today, the Department of Education, the Social Security Administration, the Veterans' Administration, it is the last, according to the report of the GAO, which now maintains the highest standards in the selection of students worthy of assistance. This legacy of the administration of the GI Bill needs to be remembered.

But then came the 1960s. The offspring of the postwar baby boom rushed on the universities and colleges and overwhelmed them.

At the same time the programmes of the great society were introduced: the children of the needy and minorities were to be helped to go to college. Whereas in the 16 years before 1956 the number of students in Illinois had risen by only 50,000, it rose in the succeeding 18 years by only a little less than another 350,000. It is such astounding figures, reflected in other states across the country, that raise questions about student aid.

One last figure gives some idea of the mushrooming that occurred during the 1970s. When the Pell grants for needy students were introduced in 1973-74—they are so called after Senator Claiborne Pell who sponsored them—$122m was distributed to some 185,000 students. In the fiscal year which ends in April this year no fewer than 2,800,000 students will receive $2,300m in this form of aid alone. No wonder Mr Reagan wonders.

The admission of students who will probably not graduate and not even finish their courses, says the GAO, is what "threatens to undermine the integrity of the financial aid programme". Of course ways ought to and can be found — even within the present budget — to assist needy students who earn their admissions on merit. If appropriate standards were maintained, indeed, more might be available for them.

Wesleyan University is a private university of high reputation. It has already announced that it is ending an admissions policy that did not take into consideration the ability of the student to pay. But its new admissions policy still provides for selecting first a class of students purely on their merit, and the other categories of admissions do not seem likely to exclude many students who deserve to get in.

Other universities and colleges are adopting much the same policies, and on the whole one finds it difficult to believe that harm will result. The simple fact is that the admissions policies of the past two decades have produced a system of higher education in which increasingly the ill-educated have been educating the ineducable, at the cost not only of the taxpayer but of those who can and wish to be educated.

The trustees of Yale University had the intelligence in 1978 to choose from its own faculty as its new president a professor of English and a scholar of medieval and renaissance literature. Mr A. Bartlett Giammatti has surprised many by his skills as an administrator and even as a fund raiser. But he has also become the most articulate spokesman of the need to restore American universities to the pursuit of their traditional functions.

There is not one state university in America today that has anything like the reputation of several in the early years of this century or even the University of California at Berkeley before it was wrecked in the rampages of the 1960s. When the admissions were comparatively few, even to public universities, their "curiously hierarchical nature" was respected, even by the democracy. It no longer is. Not by the democracy as it is now.

It can only be hoped that the cutting of federal aid will start some rethinking out in the states. Once they start reducing admissions, then reform will really have begun.

Does the Arts Council protest too much?

Last week Mr Richard Hoggart delivered the Haldane Memorial Lecture at Birkbeck College and used the occasion to make a prolonged attack upon the media for, he claimed, its unfair treatment of the Arts Council following the cuts in December 1980.

With ironclad arrogance, he told his learned listeners that the media "had particular difficulties in dealing adequately with issues which require intellectual or imaginative perspective", accused the arts reporters of gullibility, and attributed to me personally a Svengali-like influence over them, in the following terms: "The intensity and length of the uproar owe a good deal to the activities of one man, Michael Croft . . . he found quite exceptionally willing ears throughout the press and broadcasting". The fact that the "willing ears" might also have had minds of their own and taken a poor view of the Arts Council anyway did not occur to Mr Hoggart.

The truth is that for some time mine was almost the only critical voice to be heard. Most of the 41 organizations which lost subsidy kept quiet in the hope of having it restored or of obtaining Arts Council winding up grants instead.

I have now made my own study of the way the media treated the cuts. Far from the bias of which Mr Hoggart complains, I find that the serious newspapers at least continually gave the Arts Council space to justify itself.

The first announcement of the cuts, predictably, caused a furore; but Christmas was coming and one assumed that the press would then lose interest. On the contrary, in the New Year the issue was quickly taken up by some provincial reporters invited to London by the Arts Council to hear news of its regional policy. According to one Northern journalist, in response to persistent questioning over the cuts, Mr Richard Pulford, Sir Roy Shaw's deputy, turned "very shirty" and sternly declared: "You are not here to discuss this!"

At the same time Mr Hoggart spoke out as vice-chairman of the Arts Council. *In The Standard* on January 9 he justified the lack of warning given to victims by asking "Have you ever tried going up to a man and telling him you were going to hang him?" Some of us felt bound to reply that in British justice people were not usually hanged without a fair trial.



Michael Croft: critical voice

The first sign of paranoia at the Arts Council then appeared. Mr Hoggart claimed he had been misquoted, and the Arts Council put pressure on Mr Louis Kirby, editor of *The Standard*, to retract this statement. Mr Kirby stood by his reporter, Charles Spencer, but then gave Sir Roy Shaw *two full-length columns in* which to restate the Arts Council case. However, this did not satisfy Sir Roy, who complained that he was published on a "miscellaneous" page and that, instead of printing *his* photograph, *The Standard* had used one of me as his principal critic.

Criticism came to the boil in March when, in *The Sunday Times*, Mr St John-Stevas, Arts Minister at the time of the cuts, called the Arts Council's conduct "ill-judged and uncivilized". His attack elicited further press comment, some of it sympathetic to the Arts Council. In *The Observer* Miss Janet Watts found Sir Roy's manner surprisingly "genial" and quoted him at length, while *The Sunday Times* gave Mr Kenneth Robinson a large chunk of its Opinion page to reply in detail to Mr St John-Stevas.

But the Arts Council was now sniffing out criticism from all quarters and one had a vision of Sir Roy poring over his press cuttings late into the night like Nixon over his tapes. The next editor to offend was Richard Keeble of *The Teacher*, a publication which, not surprisingly, had deplored the axing of the National youth organizations. *Mr Keeble was called to* Piccadilly and lectured on his lack of journalistic judgment. Soon afterwards *The Teacher* gave prominent space to a letter from Sir Roy under the banner, "Arts Council not to blame for Cuts".

Mr Hoggart is Warden of Goldsmiths' College. Some of his students now began to boycott his lectures in protest against his support for the cuts. Thus he agreed to hold an open meeting on April 24. The meeting was limited to one hour. Sir Roy took up half of it with his now familiar litany of self-justification but then came a barrage of criticism from theatre directors, managers and students, who accused the Council variously of ineptitude, partiality, ignorance and arrogance.

Not a word of this criticism appeared in the daily press. In fact *The Daily Telegraph* devoted most of a lengthy report to the statements by Sir Roy and Mr Hoggart. But that Sunday Miss Janet Watts in *The Observer* described the hostile mood of the audience and the fierceness of the criticism. Miss Watts was then accused by the Arts Council of misrepresentation and lack of integrity. Although her editor stood by her, she felt so threatened by the severity of the attack that she is still reluctant to discuss the matter at all.

In September the Arts Council fired its major salvo. In its annual report, unsullied by the hands of art reporters, Mr Robinson and Sir Roy in tandem defended the cuts yet again and rebuked the media no less than eight times for its irresponsible coverage of them.

I believe that the Arts Council is an essential institution but it is surely scarcely credible that men who have spent their working lives in the field of communications should make such a botch-up of their public relations. Rereading their utterances, I suspect that they neither understand nor respect the functions of the press. They think it should be their handmaiden, not their critic; should print their hand-outs but not question their policy. Though outwardly democratic, when exposed to criticism they show totalitarian responses. They resent the power of the press and the fact that, as the Arts Council is in practice answerable to no one but itself, the press provides the only court in which it can be called to account. It is a dismal irony that an organization which, above all else, should stand for freedom of expression, should get so incensed when the press chooses to exercise that freedom by putting the Arts Council itself in the dock.

Michael Croft

The author is director of the National Youth Theatre of Great Britain.

Shirley Williams forms a new personal alliance

Shirley Williams has formed a new and personal alliance with the Liberal prospective parliamentary candidate for Westbury in Wiltshire, David Hughes. He is at work on her biography, intended for publication before the next general election.

Hughes's sum total of published writing to date is one booklet, a prescient work he produced a year ago, called *Liberals and Social Democrats: The Case for an Alliance*. He is also now involved in plans for a new fortnightly supporting the alliance cause, called *The Democrat*.

His own constituency, though in the top rank of Liberal winnables, is not yet guaranteed to him by formal agreement with the local Social Democrats, but he is promised Williams's co-operation on the book. He says: "We have had one reasonably extensive meeting, and I shall be seeing her again when I have done more research."

Hughes promises a serious political book. "Anyone looking for a lot of stuff about hair and missed trains will be disappointed".

Clued-up Sir Cecil

The latest winner of *The Times* crossword puzzle prize is Sir Cecil Clothier, the Ombudsman. Sir Cecil, parliamentary commissioner for administration and health service commissioner for England, Wales and Scotland, won *The Times Atlas of the World* with a correct entry completed in 45 minutes.

He has been doing the crossword since he went up to Oxford before the war. "I always do the across clues first, without any regard for the down ones, and then I go back to the beginning and see what I have got," he told PHS yesterday. "If you call that a system, that's mine".

THE TIMES DIARY

Donald Duck is the new Tory spokesman on economic policy. He is thus promoted in a Labour Party slide show which is to be shown in the constituencies this summer in an attempt to tutor party activists in the complexities of the alternative economic strategy.

While Donald quacks his way through the Conservative side of the argument, Labour's replies are put in a refined and lady-like voice which sounds as if it comes complete with pearls and twinset. One MP who has had a preview of the show tells me he was appalled. "The whole presentation diminishes the arguments to the level of comic cuts", he protests.

Exotic holidays

Whatever our present difficulties, PHS does not envy Abrahama Mendez his job. Mendez is deputy general manager of El Salvador's national tourism institute, charged with encouraging people to holiday in a land best known for its daily round of indiscriminate killings, bomb blasts and gun battles.

"There is no denying that we have an image problem," Mendez allows, but he thinks his country has had a raw deal from the international media. True, American nuns and lawyers have been murdered but no foreign tourist has been killed or holiday centre attacked. "You have a greater chance of being killed walking down a New York street at night, but that does not prevent tourists going there", he complains.

The institute is trying to persuade the US State Department to drop its "no-go" rating of El Salvador, which since 1979 has meant that most American insurance policies are void during their holders' stay in El Salvador. "We all know some Americans will hardly go out of their front door without checking their policies, so this is obviously a blow to us", Mendez says.

Apart from civil war, El Salvador offers volcanoes, Mayan ruins, a tropical climate and Pacific beaches. "We are beginning to halt the slump in the number of visitors", the irrepressible Mendez avers. "All is not lost. We have great plans for the future."

Scotland Yard An Apology

Our item headed Corruption Drama at the Court *on January 19 suggested the Royal Court play* Operation Bad Apple *carried a degree of verisimilitude with* Operation Countryman *by portraying police corruption going as high as Assistant Commissioner. It also suggested this was correct in fact.*

We are glad to make it clear, and we accept, that there are no grounds for suspecting that any of the Assistant Commissioners at the time of Operation Countryman, or at any other time, was guilty of corruption.

We apologize for any distress caused by this item and as a token of our regret we are paying a sum of damages to the Assistant Commissioners, for crime and uniform operations respectively, part of which they will be donating to a police charity.

British delays

An influential German editor regales PHS with his experience of British efficiency. Instructed to report at Washington airport at least two hours before the departure of British Airways' flight 276 to London, he was told when he got there that the flight would be half an hour late. He was warned of further delay only after the alternative (Pan Am) flight to London had already left. Thereafter further delays were announced every 30 minutes until the passengers were taken to hotel bedrooms. Roused early next morning, they were then told the plane had still not left Detroit, but that they should take off at noon. In fact they would have left at 1.20 pm had a mechanical fault not set them back another 90 minutes.

Though the plane was a third empty, an old and ill lady was refused a row to herself. The red wine was iced, and most of the in-flight entertainment was, said my informant, boring. What brightened it up, the editor concludes, was the screening of some documentaries showing how brilliantly British enterprise and industry performs.

Appealing mix

The mix of people that the Rev Douglas Perkins has enlisted to support his appeal on behalf of Christ Church, Streatham, is almost as varied as the potpourri of Byzantine, Greek and Egyptian styles that have shaped the church itself. Christ Church, a Grade 1 listed building erected in 1842, has a west front modelled on the Great Synagogue in Athens. The tower was probably inspired by the campanile of St Mark's, Venice, and the arches are copied from the Great Mosque in Isfahan.

Oboist Evelyn Rothwell, widow of Sir John Barbirolli, who once lived in Christchurch Road, has agreed to become a patron as have former music hall star Leslie Sarony and actress June Whitfield, who still live near by. The poet laureate, Sir John Betjeman, and David Jacobs, the broadcaster, have also been recruited.

The only jarring feature about this remarkable piece of architecture is that much of the inside of the church is painted in a striking pink and blue colour scheme—which fills the vicar "with horror".

● *Marc is indisposed*

Like father . . .

When Greville Janner succeeded his father, Sir Barnett (now Lord) Janner, as Labour MP for Leicester North West in 1970, it was the first and only time such a thing had happened on the Labour benches.

Now Greville's son Daniel, a former president of the Cambridge Union and secretary of the Young Fabians, has been chosen as Labour prospective candidate for Bosworth. There he will be pitted against another dynastic representative, the incumbent, Adam Butler, second son of Rab.

No chance of Daniel graduating to his father's constituency, now Leicester West, I fear, as Greville did from his teething ground in Wimbledon. "Daniel will make his own way in his own way", Janner MP assured PHS.

Burnt-out?

The electrical contracting industry is to hear in Harrogate on April 1 what bad shape it is in. The bearer of the sad news is Dr Alan Bailey, research director of BUPA, the private health-care concern.

For two years employees of firms in the Electrical Contractors' Association have been able to have BUPA medical examinations at their employers' expense. Bailey says that preliminary findings from the Manchester area showed that electricians of an average age of 35 were physiologically ten years older. He found them more worn and torn than businessmen of 47, and more likely to suffer, or die, from heart disease.

Bailey is now analyzing results from screenings on London electricians, who seem a little less frayed than their northern colleagues. One filament of hope — Bailey says electricians respond to advice to give up smoking and drinking better than businessmen.

In preliminary voting for the "best non-acting performance" category of the Broadcasting Press Guild's annual television awards, one member nominated Jeremy Irons for Brideshead Revisited *and another Adolfo Celi for* The Borgias.

Orchestral moves

If Rudolf Barshai, founder of the Moscow Chamber Orchestra, succeeds Uri Segal as principal conductor of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, he will add prestige to the seaside band but further dilute its reputation for promoting British music.

Bournemouth was founded as the first permanent municipal orchestra in Britain in 1893 by Sir Dan Godfrey, of the great family of British bandmasters.

PHS

[redacted]



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McCARTHYISM

It goes back to last July. British Rail had offered its employees 7 per cent in the annual round, which was 7 per cent more than it could afford since it faced losses in the year exceeding £100 million. The railway unions had demanded 15 per cent. The dispute went to the Railway Staff National Tribunal (chairman, Lord McCarthy) which split the difference: 8 per cent backdated plus 3 per cent. The tribunal did not regard it as its business to consider how the award was to be paid for, though it gave a perfunctory nod in the direction of productivity: "given the financial and market constraints that press on the industry, adequate pay and conditions should continue to be influenced by what can be done to maintain productivity"..

The board said the extra 3 per cent could be paid only if it was financed by productivity. The unions demanded payment without strings. A strike was averted in August with the help of ACAS in whose presence the parties put their names to two related but separate "understandings". One on pay said that the extra 3 per cent would be paid backdated on January 4 and a thirty-nine hour week introduced. The other on productivity included the objectives of variable rostering — "negotiation shall take place to establish variations to rostering agreements with a view to introducing some flexibility around the eight hour day . . . These discussions shall be concluded by October 31."

Two of the rail unions fulfilled their undertakings about productivity. The third, Aslef, did not. It refused to budge from the eight hour day, a time-honoured restriction which enforces monstrous inefficiencies in the use of train drivers' time. The board felt justified in withholding the 3 per cent from Aslef and Aslef felt justified in stopping the railways three days a week. The disruption for the public has been less than might have been expected. But it has been ruinous to the railway's finances and damaging to its commercial prospects.

The inquiry chaired by Lord McCarthy, which Aslef refused to attend, finds that the board's promise to pay the 3 per cent was unconditional, that its attempt at the time to make the payment dependent on the parallel productivity agreement being honoured was merely" a statement of intent about its own future attitude", that the 3 per cent should now be paid to Aslef and the strike called off, and that negotiations about rostering should be resumed and expedited in the established machinery of the railways from which the board should not have removed it, the final piece of that machinery being Lord McCarthy himself in his capacity of non-binding arbitrator.

Never can a party to proceedings have been so well rewarded for refusal to attend. Everything went Aslef's way. The only thing demanded of it is that it "should confirm its continued commitment to the understandings of August 1981" and specifically to the rostering bit of the productivity understanding. But we know the cash value of Aslef's commitment to that agreement. Mr Ray Buckton spelled it out on August 21. The agreement, he said, did not commit the unions to any productivity issue; "we are committed to talking about these issues, something we have never refused to do. I say it is a victory for railwaymen".

This broken-backed inquiry has greatly weakened the position of the board. It can now seek to write into the conditions for paying up and resuming negotiations the pre-commitment by Aslef which Lord McCarthy so recklessly omitted from his proposals. That appears to be the purpose of its move last night. But it will be hard now to get a bankable assurance out of Aslef, and to stand out for one risks losing the good will of the other two rail unions and the present guarded neutrality of the trades union movement in general. Aslef's own protective self-righteousness will have hardened. The prospect of wringing a rostering agreement out of it this side of a prolonged shut-down of the railways, irreversible loss of traffic, and permanent closure of parts of the system, has been made worse by the McCarthy inquiry. But the board must persevere in the attempt and hold to its insistence on the efficient use of its manpower. In that it deserves support from the public and stiffening from the Government.

ARMS TO ARMS, ASHES TO ASHES

The proposed sale of American F-16 jet fighters and Hawk mobile anti-aircraft missiles to Jordan seems likely to become the object of another major political battle in the United States similar to the one over the Awacs sale to Saudi Arabia last year. Once again the battle lines will be drawn between the administration, the arms manufacturers and the pro-Arab business lobby on one side, and a broad alliance of Senators and Congressmen, some hawkish, some doveish, encouraged and orchestrated by the Israeli embassy and the American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee on the other. Mr Weinberger and the Pentagon will again be seen as the main proponents of the deal, while Mr Haig, who shows greater sensitivity to the dangers of a confrontation with Israel and its American allies, may again run the risk of appearing only a tepid supporter of the President in a key foreign policy battle — for certainly the President will need once again to throw his personal authority into the scale if the deal is to go through.

Mr Reagan might well win this battle as he won the last, but his domestic political position is no longer as strong as it was last year and he might, on reflection, decide that the diversion of energies from the battle to get his budget accepted and to preserve Republican positions in the mid-term Congressional elections was more than he could afford. He might also ask himself whether, if he is going to take on the pro-Israel lobby in a pitched battle — never a decision to be taken lightly by any American leader — this is the right issue on which to do it.

That was already very doubtful in the Awacs case, but at least there was a tenable argument that Saudi Arabia needed Awacs to protect her oilfields against a surprise attack from Iran, and that it was healthier for this protection to be assured by Saudi Arabia's own armed forces, suitably equipped, than by American forces based on Saudi soil. In Jordan's case there can be no serious doubt against whom an air defence system is needed. A major Syrian attack on Jordan is hardly likely, for all the present tension between the two countries. President Assad has more than enough on his plate without that. Nor does it seem likely that Mr Weinberger intends the weapons to be passed to Iraq for use against Iran, as Iran's President Ali Khamenei has charged. If that were the intention, Congress would certainly be right to oppose the deal, for only on the most cynical and short-sighted view could it be considered America's interest to fuel the flames of that futile and dangerous conflict.

No, the country by which Jordan feels directly threatened, and against which it feels especially vulnerable in the air, is of course Israel. The weapons by which it feels threatened are American weapons, acquired by Israel as military aid (either through outright grants or through very soft credit terms) from the U.S. government. And the reason why America feels impelled to offer such weapons to Jordan was also the underlying reason for the Awacs deal: the need to retain the friendship of moderate Arab states in spite of supporting an Israeli policy which directly threatens their interests and to which they are bitterly opposed.

There are many aspects of this policy which the United States also opposes, or claims to oppose: for instance the raids against Beirut and Baghdad, the annexation of the Golan heights, the intensive colonisation of the West Bank. It opposes these, rightly, because it sees them as threatening the fragile truce in the Middle East, increasing the likelihood of another all-out Arab-Israeli war, increasing the general Arab mistrust and hostility towards the United States, and thereby undermining the position of pro-American regimes in the Arab world. A logical response would be to reduce the level of American military aid to Israel until such time as Israel is willing to take more account of American views and interests. The administration is, it seems, unwilling to take the political risks involved in such a course. It is therefore driven to compensate for its over-arming of Israel by arming the Arabs as well thus getting into conflict with the pro-Israel lobby anyway but in a less good cause. Before long we shall reach the position where an Arab-Israeli war can be fought mainly with American weapons on both sides, thereby no doubt greatly increasing the profits of the American arms industry but also casting severe doubt on the seriousness of America's commitment to peace. It is time for Mr Reagan and his advisers to try putting the horse before the cart.

Health partnership

From Mr Arthur Seldon

Sir, Since taxation is not supplying sufficient funds, and the demand for improving health services will continue to grow, a decision to postpone insurance as a source of finance will have two results that neither government nor health insurers can preclude or even restrain.

First, it will accelerate the deterioration in the quality of services supplied by the NHS. Many will remain exemplary, not least because they are provided by doctors, nurses and others still living off the spiritual capital of the medical and nursing professions that has nothing to do with the NHS; but the general standard will decline even more rapidly in the next ten years than it has in the past ten.

Second, the demand for improved quality — which comprises not only clinical treatment and consultation but also time in waiting, individual attention, choice of doctor, date and place of attention — will increase more rapidly, despite short-period fluctuations.

All this because the much maligned "market forces", no more than the activities of men and women in the ordinary daily business of Wordsworth's "getting and spending", will find ways round the power of the state. As incomes rise the ordinary man and woman will want better medicine than the state can supply equally (or rather attempts to supply, because it fails). As medical technique improves, it will be easier to supply services, decentralized and localized, to suit individual requirements, circumstances and preferences. As employees become more valuable in industry, the attitude of the NHS hospital — "don't call us, we'll call you" — will be increasingly rejected if work is not to be disrupted by the absence of a key man in a working group, team, task or plant.

The central political decision — whether to repress private medicine in the effort to sustain the NHS, or to welcome private medicine as a standard by which to judge the NHS, a competitor to stimulate it, and a source of finance to supplement it — must be taken sooner rather than later. The longer it is evaded the more disturbing it will eventually be, since market forces do not stand still.

Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR SELDON,
The Thatched Cottage,
Godden Green,
Sevenoaks,
Kent.
February 10.

Trident considerations

From Vice-Admiral Sir Ian McGeoch

Sir, You report Mr Keith Speed, MP (February 13), as urging Mr Nott to abandon Trident II, which is a submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM) system having a maximum range of about 6,000 miles, in favour of an unspecified number of Tomahawk cruise missiles with a range of barely 2,000 miles, to be "carried in every submarine in the Navy and fitted to surface ships".

There are at least three strong reasons against such a proposal. First, ballistic missiles are inherently more difficult to counter than cruise missiles, to a degree that cannot be compensated for, at a similar cost, by a greater number of cruise missiles.

Secondly, the unique stabilising character of the SLBM system derives from the concealment and mobility of the submarine in the vastness of the oceans. The role, primarily anti-submarine, of the general-purpose submarine, whether nuclear-powered or diesel-electric, requires it to accept risk of detection in the course of its operations, which would be incompatible with the strategic deterrent, retaliatory role.

Thirdly, the notion that the strategic nuclear deterrent arm might credibly be mounted in surface ships, whose every movement may readily be observed, seems to be contrary to common sense.

Yours faithfully,
IAN McGEOCH,
Southerns,
Castle Hedingham,
Halstead,
Essex.
February 15.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hope for cut in NI charge

From the Director-General of the Confederation of British Industry

Sir, Sir William Clark and Mr Michael Grylls (letter, February 15) appear to agree with the Confederation of British Industry that the need in the coming Budget is to help commerce and industry to get moving. Where we disagree is on the method used.

Pound-for-pound cutting the "infamous" National Insurance surcharge would be the quickest way of helping a very wide cross section of business, by letting companies keep and use their own money. In this way the Government would help investment and therefore job prospects; it would assist exports and promote import substitution.

The gross yield sector by sector of NIS in 1980 was 27.2 per cent from manufacturing, 9.6 per cent distribution, 5.3 per cent construction, 3.1 per cent transport and communication, and 12.1 per cent other services — all fields which are now feeling the worst effects of the recession.

A third came from one sector: central Government (simply a book transfer), from local government (where the rate-support grant could be adjusted), and from the nationalised industries (where the Government could insist that a saving on NIS should be tied to investment).

We are completely in favour of full indexation of tax allowances on the basis of the Lawson-Rooker-Wise amendment, which we have included in our representations to the Chancellor.

The CBI would like to see income tax cuts, but the case for direct assistance to industry is much more pressing and the timing of such cuts would make much better sense next year.

Sir William and Mr Grylls should be aware that the real problem for business just now is low liquidity and low profitability.

The CBI agrees that many people in Britain are concerned about the level of personal taxation but we would submit they are even more concerned about employment prospects.

It should also be noted that in 1981 real disposable income for persons stood 13 per cent higher than it did four years ago whilst post-tax profitability for companies had fallen 67 per cent in the same period.

Cutting income tax now could start a consumer-led boom sucking in imports with which a weakened business sector would be hard pressed to compete.

The beauty of cutting NIS is that it would immediately help businesses to compete by cutting costs, which CBI members tell us is the paramount obstacle to gaining further overseas business.

Yours sincerely,
TERENCE BECKETT, Director-General,
Confederation of British Industry,
Centre Point,
103 New Oxford Street, WC1.
February 15.

Events in St Lucia

From the High Commissioner for St Lucia

Sir, I have just returned from St Lucia and have been shown a report from your Washington Correspondent which appeared in your newspaper of January 21. The report is certainly a phantom and has no substance. The facts are simply these:

Last year, the government of St Lucia, under Mr Allen Louisy, was defeated on its Budget measures. The Prime Minister, who was also Minister of Finance, resigned. The Governor General, after consultation, asked Mr Winston Cenac to form a government.

On January 11 last Government introduced a Bill in Parliament purporting to remove doubts as to the extent of certain legislation (Ordinance 16 of 1960 of the Laws of St Lucia) concerning the holding of an office of profit under the Crown. The Bill further sought to extend the period during which a minister, having been given an advance for the purpose of his travel abroad, is required by law to surrender the advance on his return home.

The Opposition considered the Bill a blatant attempt at legalising corrupt practices. There was uproar in the House and the sitting was not resumed. So incensed was the general public that the Chamber of Commerce, which had repeatedly complained to Government on previous occasions of mismanagement of the affairs of state, instructed its members to close their premises and keep them closed until Government resigned.

The trade unions approached the government to withdraw the Bill. When the Government in fact agreed to withdraw, the unions went further and demanded Government's resignation. A part of the Civil Service then decided to come out on strike.

The strike lasted for about five days before the Archbishop of St Lucia and his aide, Father Anthony, offered their good offices. The private sector and the political parties accepted the offer. They agreed that a former junior minister, Mr Brian Michael Pilgrim, would form an interim Government. The agreement was so hedged with constitutional provisions that it made it impossible for the Prime Minister to conceive of any idea of permanence in office. Parliament was dissolved on February 6. In accordance with the Constitution general elections will follow within 90 days of dissolution.

I think you would admit that this cannot be bettered for constitutional propriety.

Yours faithfully,
CLAUDIUS C. THOMAS,
Eastern Caribbean Commission,
10 Kensington Court, W8.
February 4.

A log jam in land tenancies

From Sir Charles Mott-Radclyffe

Sir, In your timely leading article "From generation to generation" (February 9) you query the validity of Mr Peter Walker's reluctance to introduce amending legislation to the 1976 Inheritance of Tenancies Act (which gave security of tenure to two further generations after the death of the sitting tenant) lest it should be labelled "a landlord's charter". It would be difficult to think of a more complete misnomer. Indeed, the principal beneficiaries under any such Bill would not be the landlord but the would-be tenant, which is why the Tenant Farmers' Association and the Young Farmers are in favour of it.

The present situation is singularly unhealthy, for tenanted land is virtually a closed shop, confined to those fortunate enough to be able to claim the inheritance of a farm tenancy on their father's death. It is as though every tenant farm had a notice on its gate, "One way traffic only, no entry for newcomers".

Even the second son of the deceased tenant has little chance of finding a farm to rent if his elder brother has successfully claimed the tenancy on his father's death. Very few, if any, landowners are prepared to lock up a farm tenancy which might last for 100 years, as the drop of one million acres of tenanted land (quoted in your editorial) since 1976 shows.

Unless an attempt is made to remove this log jam very soon all kinds of alternative schemes to the landlord and tenant system will go ahead, leaving future arguments about the tenanted sector more or less academic. Legislation on agricultural tenancies is only practical so long as there is some tenanted land to legislate about.

I hope that Mr Peter Walker will not go down in history as the Conservative Minister of Agriculture who put the final nail in the coffin of the landlord and tenant system.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES MOTT-RADCLYFFE,
Barningham Hall,
Matlaske,
Norwich.
February 11.

From Mr Aidan Harrison

Sir, I refer to your editorial (Feb 9) on agricultural tenancies.

The number of farms let to tenants has been in decline for 30 years due to the profitability of postwar farming and the penal taxation of landlords' capital and rental income.

The 1976 legislation was designed to stem the flood of landowners, who were understandably avoiding these taxes, and reaping large profits, by becoming large-scale farmers at the expense of the young generation of tenants. Thus the availability of farms to *new* young tenants had dried up well before the 1976 Act; it was enacted to slow down the attack on the number of *existing* rented family farms. The repeal of this Act will make no more land available to young farmers.

This can only be achieved by a taxation policy which encourages responsible landowners to let land as smaller family farms, and legislation which discourages the faceless absentee purchasers of land, such as financial institutions, from destroying the ecological and social fabric of rural England for the purely monetary gain of unseen, uncaring investors.

The rent of a farm should be determined by the earning capacity of that farm under good husbandry, not by someone in the City deciding on what return he requires from his (fragile) investment; when the tenant goes bankrupt there are always more young hopefuls, at even higher rents, ready to try to extract even more from the soil.

Institutional ownership should be conditional to letting in small farm units with security of tenure and fair rents.

On the subject of succession, is it your wish that a farmer's son can be evicted from his home, often after half his working life? Even under the "impregnable and unending security" of the 1976 Act, 50 per cent of contested cases are won by the landlord.

I would suggest that a change which would help all round would be the ending of a tenancy when the tenant reaches 65, rather than on his death, with succession for a competent, qualified heir, and eviction only for very good reasons indeed.

Which, socially and environmentally, is best for our countryside: "agribusiness", itinerant short-term tenants, or the traditional, but fast-disappearing family farms with security and the feeling of families "belonging to" their parish and district?

The environmentalists who are worried about the changes in the English landscape have failed to realize that they are caused by the decline of that "endangered species", the British family farm.

Yours faithfully,
AIDAN HARRISON,
Morrelhirst,
Netherwitton,
Morpeth,
Northumberland.
February 9.

Social sciences cuts

From Dr E. A. Shinebourne and Mr J. C. R. Lincoln

Sir, We have been concerned to read reports of the Government's plans for further cut-backs in social science research. Funded by the Social Science Research Council, a team of sociologists from Goldsmiths' College, London, have been investigating parents' responses to the diagnosis of congenital heart disease in their child and to the subsequent referral to a children's heart unit. The study's results have important and practical lessons for the nursing and medical teams looking after the children as well as for the families.

How does the family understand, cope with (or not) this situation? The majority of congenital heart anomalies can be corrected but sometimes only palliation is possible and a small number of conditions are inoperable. Most children survive surgery but inevitably some die or have residual disability. How can the families best be helped to adapt to the situation?

The research has revealed the moral implications for parents of producing a less than perfect child, even though objectively the parents are not "to blame" for their child's anomaly. It has also shown that parents' communication difficulties arise particularly in early stages of treatment and this has led to the establishment at this hospital of an additional "parents" clinic prior to their child's admission.

Who can investigate with the necessary academic rigour the realities of the situation for the parents? In our view this type of sociological study is essential if we are to know the impact of high technology medicine upon our patients and their families. To eliminate this type of social science research and the grant-giving body best able to judge its quality would be a profoundly mistaken act of Governmental policy.

Yours faithfully,
ELLIOT A. SHINEBOURNE,
C. LINCOLN,
Department of Paediatric Cardiology and Surgery,
Brompton Hospital,
Fulham Road, SW3.

SDP aspirations

From Mr Grattan Endicott

Sir, It is estimated that some 60 per cent of the members of the SDP are people like myself who have no previous allegiance to any political party. We stayed away, not from lack of interest but because we did not like what we saw as bickering and division, the politics of confrontation and clique. We have come forward now because we believe the SDP offers a new climate, a new scene, and we will be determined to obtain those goals.

Therefore, there is no room for ungenerous spirits; for antiquated attitudes of suspicion in our ranks. There is no room for such attitudes in our dealings with others. This party has a job to do, it must get on with it and show the electorate that it does indeed have the strength and the will to lift itself above the pettiness which people like me have abhorred in the past.

The hope of the party and of the British people is that a party containing these new elements is bound by the very force of its nature to find its centre of gravity in the broad centre, in that very broad centre through which we are now urging the electors to drive a swathe of common sense and consensus. Anyone for whom this will and energy is too strong must inevitably opt out, for we cannot afford to be held back by narrow thinking or mean designs: the aim is too high, the time too short.

It is therefore comforting to note that John Horam today, in your columns, (February 9), has applied a corrective to the rather silly debate that has been going on for a few days — with may it be said, the gratuitous intervention of some persons whose concern is not the achievement of the purpose we have set. I trust we may now get on with our task without involving ourselves in such quirky discussions — and a plague on those who will try to stir them up.

Yours sincerely,
GRATTAN ENDICOTT,
14, Elmswood Court,
Palmerston Road,
Liverpool.

Right objectives

From Mr David Irving

Sir, I was shown the two letters referring to Focus on my return from Washington yesterday. Alexander Chancellor (February 3) does clear up the mystery of why our advertisements inviting branch secretaries to sell us their mailing lists have not appeared in his *Spectator*. We encountered the same censorship at the other end of the political spectrum — the Cambridge university newspaper *Stop Press* declined a whole-page advertisement for our *Focal Point*, unseen, but at least informed us by less roundabout means than a letter to *The Times*!

May I diffidently take issue with Mr Chancellor's description of me? Some call me "mild", he calls me "extremist": perhaps radical dissident would be fairer words, particularly since I do not believe Mr Chancellor has met me or read our *Focal Point*.

Our embryonic group has never published any statement of objectives. Indeed our journal makes it plain that Focus policies will be formulated after rational consideration, and not before. Can he know more about them than I do?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID IRVING,
Chairman, Focus Policy Group,
31 Duke Street,
Mayfair, W1.
February 10.

Case for Belvoir coalfield

From the President of the National Union of Mineworkers

Sir, The article by Ronald Butt in *The Times* of February 11 is heavily biased against the development of the north-east Leicestershire coalfield and one-sided in the choice of views quoted.

The inspector and his assessors at the public inquiry did consider "a huge weight of evidence", but Mr Butt leaves the impression that most of it came from objectors. In fact, those who spoke in favour of the development included the Department of Energy, the European Community's Energy Commission and the Central Electricity Generating Board (CEGB). The two county councils involved, Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire, are no longer opposed to the development.

Having heard the evidence from all parties, expressed over six months of public hearings, the inspector, in his unpublished report, appears to have recommended that planning permission should be given.

Your article claims that 4,000 properties would be at risk because of subsidence damage. In fact, expert evidence based on experience in other coalfields suggests that two-thirds of all the properties would not be affected at all and only about 100 would suffer anything more than slight damage. None of the potential housing sites mentioned at the inquiry is in the Vale of Belvoir.

Indeed, only one of the proposed three mine sites is in the Vale of Belvoir. That name was given to the coalfield by the objectors, for emotive and campaign reasons.

Some new railway building would be necessary, but the only development within the vale itself would be the reinstatement of the mostly undeveloped track of a disused line.

There would be no permanent loss of agricultural land as a result of waste disposal from the mines and only 3 per cent of the total land area of the coalfield would be occupied by the mine sites.

The inquiry had evidence from the CEGB that the coal would be needed by their local power stations to replace the capacity which is inevitably going to be lost through the exhaustion of reserves at pits in Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire.

If this country is going to recover permanently from the current recession caused by the huge rise in oil prices since 1974, we must surely develop the assets that nature has given us. And there is no better example of that wealth than the new Leicestershire coalfield.

Yours faithfully,
JOE GORMLEY, President,
National Union of Mineworkers,
222 Euston Road, NW1.
February 16.

Taxing bank profits

From the Vice-Chairman of Barclays Bank Limited

Sir, It was widely reported in today's press (February 11) that Mr Jack Straw, the Labour Treasury spokesman, has said in a budget memorandum to the Chancellor that the windfall profits tax on the banks should be reviewed this year. It has apparently escaped his notice that my bank has recently found it necessary to augment its capital resources by raising £100m capital loan stock which, coincidentally, approximates to the amount of last year's windfall profits tax.

Nineteen eighty-one saw considerable growth in British banks' balance sheets, perhaps as much as 30 per cent, a not insignificant part of this growth having occurred by the fall of the value of the pound against the dollar. If the banks are to retain their capital ratios at levels required by regulatory authorities and to satisfy the criteria of rating agencies to permit them to continue to satisfy the needs of British industry and to fulfil their role in the re-cycling of funds internationally, then to weaken them by depriving them of the very material on which they rely is surely a disservice to the community as a whole.

I would suggest that Mr Straw should look at the banks' needs for profits and the need to retain a high level of those profits in the business in order to fulfil their vital role rather than focus his attention on a meaningless figure of pre-tax, pre-minorities, pre-windfall profits tax profits suggested by the leading brokers.

It is perhaps paradoxical that the shares of this bank, often described as the most profitable in the world, trade at about 60 per cent of their worth in real terms 15 years ago.

Yours faithfully,
F. R. DOLLING,
Barclays Bank Limited,
54 Lombard Street, EC3.
February 11.

Shades of B. Levin

From Mr F. B. Toombs

Sir, Thank you for the warning (February 13). I have an eye shield in the car that I bought before the war for one and sixpence at Austin Reed's in Regent Street. It is most useful when driving into the sun. So, if ever I have the pleasure of an anticipated visit by Mr Levin, I would lock the garage; but I hope that won't put him off.

How nice it was of him to remind us of dear Tommy Handley; we hope we may also safely say to you, Sir,

T.T.F.N.,
FRANCIS TOOMBS,
South Green,
Kirtlington,
Oxford.
February 14.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 16: His Excellency Señor Hermes Herrera was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Republic of Cuba to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following Members of the Embassy who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Señor Licenciado Carlos Trejo Sosa (First Secretary), Señor Castro Cipriano (First Secretary), Señor Ramón Díaz Torres (Commercial Attaché) and Señor Carlos Aleman (Attaché).

Señora de Herrera had the honour of being received by The Queen.

Mr Derek Day (Deputy Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty was present, and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Dr John Batten had the honour of being received by The Queen upon his appointment as Head of Her Majesty's Medical Household.

Air Vice-Marshal John Severne had the honour of being received by The Queen upon his appointment as Captain of The Queen's Flight.

Her Majesty held a Council at 6 o'clock this evening. There were present: the Right Hon Francis Pym, MP (Lord President), the Right Hon Sir Michael Havers, MP (Attorney General) and the Right Hon Douglas Hurd, MP (Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office).

Sir Neville Leigh was in attendance as Clerk of the Council.

The Right Hon Francis Pym, MP had an audience of The Queen before the Council.

The Right Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of Her Majesty.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, this afternoon visited Selsley School, Stroud (Headmistress, Miss P. Baker).

Her Royal Highness was received upon arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Gloucestershire (Colonel M. St. J. V. Gibbs) and the Chairman of the Governors (the Reverend Ian Burbery).

By Command of The Queen, the Lord Skelmersdale (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London this morning upon the arrival of The President of the Republic of Iceland and welcomed Her Excellency on behalf of Her Majesty.

KENSINGTON PALACE
February 16: The Duke of Gloucester as President, East Midlands Tourist Board, this afternoon attended a presentation on "The present state of tourism in England" at the English Tourist Board, London.

In the evening, His Royal Highness, President, The Royal Agricultural Society of England, presided at the Honorary Fellows Dinner given by the Society at Armourers' Hall, London.

Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Bland was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE, ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 16: The Duke of Kent, as President, today visited the new offices of the Technician Education Council at Central House, Upper Woburn Street, WC1.

Captain John Stewart was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent, as Patron, accompanied by The Duke of Kent, was present this evening at a Reception for the Edward Boyle Memorial Trust which was held in the State Apartments, St James's Palace.

Mrs Peter Wilmot-Sitwell and Lieutenant-Commander Richard Buckley, RN, were in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
February 16: Princess Alexandra this afternoon visited the new milk-processing dairy of Unigate at Chadwell Heath, Dagenham.

Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester will visit the *Daily Mail* Ideal Home Exhibition at Earls Court, London, on March 8.

The governors of Queen Elizabeth's Foundation for the Disabled announce that Mr E. Stanley Evans has been appointed president of the foundation, in succession to the late Major-General Sir Randle Feilden.

Mr David John Cann, Joint Headmaster of Copthorne School, Crawley, Sussex, has been appointed Headmaster of Sandroyd School, near Salisbury.

A memorial service for Mr B. Sweet-Escott will be held at St Giles' Cripplegate, at 11.45 today.

Pope's 'hearts and minds visit'

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

Cardinal Hume yesterday offered reassurance to those who were apprehensive about the visit of Pope John Paul II to Britain in May. "There's bound to be fear", he said. "We have a very complicated history in this country, and it is fantastic that he is coming here at all. But he is not coming here to chuck his weight about."

At the largest press conference the cardinal had ever addressed, he answered a question from a foreign journalist about "anti-Roman feeling" among the British, which could be provoked by the papal visit.

"He is a very dear man", Cardinal Hume said. "People see all kinds of things that the Catholic Church might do. But it won't. We are good citizens."

He appeared upset by a suggestion that the Pope's visit to Toxteth in Liverpool, part of his route from Speke airport, was in connexion with last summer's riots there. Some of the more outspoken comments he had heard were clearly malicious, he said. The route was decided before the riots, and to avoid Toxteth would need a deliberate decision.

The cardinal said he had heard it said that "all you had to do was to throw a brick at the police, and the Pope would come and visit you". The truth was that the main road between the Roman Catholic Cathedral and the airport ran through Toxteth.



Cardinal Hume: "We are good citizens".

Cardinal Hume, speaking from what he called "notes" before answering questions, emphasized that one dimension of the Pope's visit was directed at "the hearts and minds of all the people" and not just the Roman Catholic community.

He had "much to say about God and about man, which I believe to be vital to the wellbeing of our society as a whole". Asked to expand, he added: "We all live in the valleys of life where the problems are. There are few people who can take us to the top of the mountain and show us a vision of what lies beyond the horizon. John Paul II is such a man. Whether we are Christian or not, this is a man who can raise our minds and hearts to things which really matter."

It had been arranged that the Pope would call on the Queen at Buckingham Palace on the day of his arrival, and the cardinal said he expected it would be a friendly and relaxed occasion, without speeches. Roman Catholics had two loves, he said, their country and their church; and the Pope's call on the Queen was a meeting between the symbols of those two loves.

But he also emphasized that the Pope was coming "as a pilgrim", and his encounter with people outside the church was something "we would want to approach in total humility".

☐ Vatican City, Feb 16 — The Pope has accepted the resignations of the Right Rev Anthony McFeely, aged 73, the Bishop of Raphoe, in the Republic of Ireland, and of the Right Rev Charles Grant, aged 76, Bishop of Northampton (Reuter reports).

Father Seamus Hegarty, aged 42, of Kilcar, will replace Bishop McFeely.

Bishop Grant, an Anglican convert, will continue to administer the diocese until the appointment of his successor. His title will be apostolic administrator.

BBC and ITV to cooperate on coverage

By Kenneth Gosling

The BBC and independent television yesterday announced that they have agreed to cooperate on the coverage of the Pope's visit.

They said they would avoid duplicating certain technical resources at some locations. They will announce their separate schedules later.

The Independent Television Companies' Association hailed the announcement as a breakthrough. There has previously been limited cooperation, such as at the state opening of Parliament, but the scope of the Pope's visit is so great and covers so wide an area that substantial coverage will be demanded.

The cooperation will extend to one of the organizations covering a particular location, say Canterbury, and providing a "feed" to the other.

Independent Television News will provide the main production team, the same as for the royal wedding, for the independent network.

OBITUARY

MR W. OPPENHEIMER

Former Westland Aircraft director

Mr Walter Oppenheimer, a director of Westland Aircraft Limited at his retirement in 1980, died on February 1 after a short illness. He was 68.

A Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, his first board appointment in the Westland group was in 1953 when he was made finance director after a short period as an adviser while still in full time professional practice in London. From 1953 until his retirement he held a wide range of directorships in Westland companies, including a period as assistant managing director for Westland Helicopters and, later, executive vice-chairman (finance) of the holding company, Westland Aircraft Limited.

In 1959 and 1960 he played a major role in the purchase by Westland of Saunders-Roe Limited and the subsequent acquisition by the company of the helicopter interests of the Bristol Aeroplane Company and Fairey Aviation Limited. This was the foundation of the Westland group as it is known today and its emergence as a successful British helicopter manufacturer.

Oppenheimer was a council member of the Society of British Aerospace Companies from 1960 to 1980, and chairman of the joint review board advisory committee from 1969 to 1977.

He continued throughout his life to take an active interest in the accounting profession, and was a member of one of the working parties associated with the inflation accounting steering group chaired by Sir Douglas Morpeth. He was also a member of the working party of the Wilson committee of inquiry into the workings of the City and its institutions, as well as author of a number of papers on accounting principles and policies.

A man of great humanity and considerable culture, a bon viveur, Oppenheimer will be missed by friends and colleagues. He leaves a wife, Anne, and three stepdaughters — Elizabeth, Diana and Margaret.

MAJOR VIVION DE VALERA

Major Vivion de Valera, who died in Dublin yesterday, aged 71, was a son of the former Irish leader, Mr Eamon de Valera.

For 36 years Vivion de Valera, who was born in 1910, was a Fianna Fail member of the Dail, retiring before the general election last year. He entered the Irish Parliament through a by-election in North West Dublin in 1945.

He was also managing and controlling director of *The Irish Press*, the newspaper founded by his father in 1931, and took over from his father at the paper in 1959.

During his parliamentary career, he remained on the backbenches; but his name ensured that he occasionally emerged in the limelight.

In March, 1974, he issued his own clarification of a statement by the then Fine Gael Prime Minister, Mr Liam Cosgrave, on the constitution of Northern Ireland. Cosgrave had said: "The factual position of Northern Ireland is that it is within the United Kingdom, and my Government accept this as a fact."

Fiann Fail supported this statement, and while de Valera did not dissent from the party, he said that Cosgrave had seemed "to come perilously near recognizing without qualification a de jure right of a section of the Irish people to maintain the partition of our country".

The Irish Constitution of 1937 claiming jurisdiction over the whole island, was one of his father's key achievements.

In October, 1976, there was speculation that Fianna Fail would nominate de Valera as its candidate for the presidency, following the resignation of Mr Cearbhall O Dalaigh. In the event, Dr Patrick Hilly, the Irish EEC Commissioner, stood and won the election.

De Valera's first wife, Bride, died in 1951. In 1975 he married Vera Rock. He is survived by his wife, his son Eamon, a director of *The Irish Press*, and a daughter, Anne.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr F. Curzon and Miss J. Hordern
The engagement is announced between Fritz, younger son of Sir Clifford Curzon, of Highgate, and Joanna, only daughter of Mr Michael Hordern, CBE, and Mrs Hordern, of Chelsea.

Mr A. M. L. G. Clavarino and Miss S. P. S. Phillips
The engagement is announced between Alfredo, elder son of the Marchese Valerio and Lucia Clavarino, of Turin, and Susan, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs John Phillips, of Horsham, Sussex.

Mr C. R. Dann and Miss J. Walton
The engagement is announced between Christopher, eldest son of Mr and Mrs A. J. Dann, of Chippenham, Wiltshire, and Jill, only daughter of Mr and Mrs W. H. Walton, of Sandbach, Cheshire.

Mr P. F. St George-Yorke and Miss K. A. Ferguson
The engagement is announced between Philip, younger son of the late Captain and Mrs F. St George-Yorke, of Harrogate, Yorkshire, and Old Windsor, Berkshire, and Katherine, younger daughter of Mr Donald Ferguson, of Huntington Beach, California, United States, and Mrs Alice Ferguson of Bellevue, Washington, United States.

Mr A. J. R. Harvey and Miss K. M. Younger
The engagement is announced between Anthony, elder son of Mr and Mrs L. M. Harvey, of 30 Wingate Way, Cambridge, and Katherine, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs R. P. Younger, of 6 Seymour Walk, London, SW10.

Mr P. Phillips and Miss J. L. Foster
The engagement is announced between Peter, youngest son of Mr and Mrs *L. L. Phillips*, of Winchmore Hill, London, and Jane, twin daughter of Lieutenant-Commander and Mrs J. L. Foster, of Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire.

Mr S. J. Hodson and Miss G. S. Lees
The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of Mr and Mrs Gordon Hodson, of The Pond Cottage, Upper Hartfield, Sussex, and Gail, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Lees, of Rodmell Grange, Rodmell, Sussex.

Mr R. M. M. Trapp and Miss D. F. Cooney
The engagement is announced between Roger, elder son of Mr and Mrs M. R. Trapp, of Stisted, Braintree, Essex, and Deirdre, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs J. E. Cooney, of Hounslow, Middlesex.

Mr R. B. H. Vetch and Miss M. C. H. Johnson
The engagement is announced between *Robin Bailey Hamilton*, only son of Mr David Vetch, of Little Court, Latton, Wiltshire, and the late Mrs Susan Vetch, of Johannesburg, South Africa, and Mary Clare Hélène, only daughter of the late Mr Dereck Johnson, of Boden Hall, Scholar Green, Cheshire, and Mrs Diana Johnson of Whiteway House, Chudleigh, Devon.

Mr G. H. Mounsey-Heysham and Miss P. A. Twiston-Davies
The engagement is announced between Giles, son of the late Major R. H. G. Mounsey-Heysham and Mrs I. M. Rowcliffe, of Castletown, Carlisle, and Penelope, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs W. A. Twiston-Davies, of the Mynde, Much Dewchurch, Hereford.

Marriages

Mr N. K. F. Graham and Mrs A. Preston
The marriage took place on February 16 at Canterbury Register Office between Mr N. K. F. Graham and Mrs A. Preston.

Colonel R. A. Humbert and Mrs G. M. F. Aspinall
The marriage took place on Saturday, February 13, followed by a service of Prayer and Thanksgiving, at St Nicholas, *Harpenden*, of Colonel Robert Adrian Humbert and Mrs Gillian Margaret Frances Aspinall, daughter of Mrs M. E. Allpress. A reception was held at The Old *Palace, Hatfield House*.

Luncheons

HM Government
Lord Carrington, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at Admiralty House yesterday at a luncheon in honour of Dr J. M. A. H. Luns, Secretary-General of Nato.

Parliamentary and Scientific Committee
The Parliamentary and Scientific Committee held their annual luncheon at the Savoy Hotel yesterday. Earl Jellicoe, president of the committee, presided and the guest of honour was Dr George A. Keyworth, II, Science Adviser to the President of the United States. Sir Harold Wilson, MP, and Mr James Callaghan, MP, were present. Other guests included:

The Earl of Halsbury, Viscount *Caldecote*, *Lord Sherfield*, Lord Zuckerman, OM, Lord Peart, Lord Lloyd of Kilgerran, QC, Mr John Nott, MP, Mr Patrick Jenkin, MP, Mr Nigel Lawson, MP, Mr J Dickson Mabon, MP, Mr Roy Mason, MP, Mr Fred Mulley, MP, the Hon William Waldegrave, MP, Sir David Price, Sir Andrew Huxley, Professor Sir Ronald Mason, Professor Sir Hermann Bondi, Sir Denis Rooke, Mr Kenneth Baker, MP, Dr Gerard Vaughan, MP, Mr Michael Roberts, MP, Dr Duncan Davies, Dr A A L Challis, Mr Arthur Palmer, MP, Mr David Ginsburg, MP, *Mr John Osborn, MP, Mr Michael Shersby*, MP, and Mr Tam Dalyell, MP.

Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Mr Harry Singer, President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, was host yesterday at a *luncheon* at Chartered Accountants' Hall. The guests were Mr A Colin Cole, Mr Nicholas Edwards, MP, Sir Derek Ezra, Mr M D M Franklin, Sir Maxwell Joseph and *Mr P R V* Watkins.

Law Society
The President of the Law Society Mr Denis Marshall, was host at a luncheon at 60 Carey Street yesterday. The guests included:

Sir Maurice Hodgson, Mr C N Smith, Dr R C Tress, Professor Gordon Borrie, Mr K E Wright, Mrs J Vivien Symons, Mr J J Copeman-Hill, Mr A R N Ratcliffe, Mr W M H Williams, Mr J D Tunnicliffe and Mr J L Bowron *(secretary-general)*.

Dinners

HM Government
The Hon Douglas Hurd, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at 1 Carlton Gardens yesterday at a dinner in honour of Herr Egon Bahr.

Lady Mayoress
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress entertained the following guests at dinner at Mansion House last night:

The Lord Chamberlain and Lady Maclean, the Right Rev Lord and Lady Coggan, Lord and Lady Luke, Admiral Sir Derek and Lady Empson, the Recorder of London and Mrs J. W. Miskin and Mr and Mrs David Inglefield.

European-Atlantic Group
The European-Atlantic Group gave a dinner last night at St Ermin's hotel in honour of Mr Peter Blaker, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, after a meeting held at the House of Commons by courtesy of Mr Ian Wrigglesworth, MP. The chairman of the meeting was Lord Mayhew and the chairman of the dinner was Sir Frank Roberts.

Among those present were:

Members of the Diplomatic Corp, Prince Cyrus Allabat, Lord Banks, Lord Beaumont of Whitley, Mr Antony Buck, QC, MP, Mrs Elma Dangerfield, Air Marshal Sir Patrick Dunn, Lord Duncan-Sandys, CH, Lord Greenhill of Harrow, Lord Kennet, Sir David and Lady Lidderdale, Sir Gilbert Longden, Sir John and Lady Peel, Lady Roberts, Sir John Rodgers, Sir Graham Rowlandson, Lord Sherfield, Viscount Simon, Lord Stewart of Fulham, CH, General Sir Harry Tuzo and Sir David Wills.

Christening

The Hon Mrs Maxwell Aitken gave birth to a daughter in London on February 15.
end

Latest wills

Harding, Mr Eric, of Hampstead, north London £294,333
Hewitt, Mr George Clark, of Penrith, Cumbria £274,138

Birthdays today

Mr John Allegro, 59; Sir Eric Clayson, 74; the Earl of Elgin, 58; Lord Foot, 73; Mr Barry Humphries, 48; Lord Kearton, 71; General Sir John Mogg, 69; Sir Orby Mootham, 81; Professor Claire Palley, 51; Mr T. C. Ravensdale, 77; the Hon Nicholas Ridley, MP, 53; Mr Justice Slynn, 52; Mr Elleston Trevor, 62.

Eton College

The following have been elected to:

Music scholarships: Charles Robert Heatly, Milborne Lodge, Esher; Yannis Kyriakides, Hill House, London; Richard Benjamin Simpkin, St Chad's Cathedral School, Lichfield.
Music exhibition: Adam Gilbert Boyden, Shrewsbury House School, Surbiton.
Honorary music exhibitions: Alexander Manisty Os, Eton and Summer Fields, Oxford; Daniel John Sladden, Edge Grove, Aldenham; Lysander Philip Roby Tennant, Eton and The Hall, Hampstead.

Exhibitions have been awarded to:
Camilla Henderson, Kensington High School Junior School; Susannah Jowill, Wycombe Abbey and Queen Mary's School, Duncombe Park; Jennifer McLintock, Bramley School, Tadworth; Alice Phipps, Wycombe Abbey and Buchan School, Castletown, Isle of Man; and Helen Pomeroy, Grey House School, Hartley Wintney.
Music exhibition: Philippa Bale, St Mary's School, Colchester.

Wycombe Abbey School

The following scholarships have been awarded:

Wycombe Abbey Open: Rachel Sutherland, Kensington High School Junior School; William Johnston Yapp; Julia Coombe, Godstowe School, High Wycombe; Crosthwaite: Hester McCowan, *Wycombe Abbey School* and Kensington High School Junior School; Walpole: Karolina O'Donoghue, Milbourne Lodge School, Esher; Whitelaw (for Music): Tamsin Todd, Old Vicarage School, Richmond.

Charterhouse

Music scholarships have been awarded to:
B J. C. Midworth, Milbourne Lodge, Esher; R. W. J. Young, Dorset House, Pulborough; G. O. J. Kekwick, Edgeborough, Frensham and Charterhouse; B. W. R. Lane, The Pilgrims' School, Winchester.

Rugby School

The following music awards have been made:
Scholarships: A J Copping, Arnold Lodge School, Leamington Spa, *Warwickshire*; *T Shillinglaw*, *Beechwood Park*, Markyate, St Albans, Hertfordshire; G N R Bennett, Rossall Junior School, Fleetwood, Lancashire. Exhibition: R J Thompson, Edge Grove School, Aldenham, Hertfordshire.

MR BOONPONG SIRIVEJJABHANDU

Mr Boonpong Sirivejjabhandu, GM, who died in Bangkok on January 29, made the name Boonpong familiar to all prisoners on the Thai half of the Thai-Burma railway built by the Japanese with Allied PoW labour in 1942 and 1943.

He himself came from the small town of Kanchanaburi, the base from which the railway went north. Originally the contractor for supplying the camps with such canteen produce as the Japanese permitted, he rapidly came to identify himself with the PoWs, not from any strong political beliefs, but from simple Buddhist compassion.

He risked cashing many camp commanders' cheques, brought in secret medical supplies for the camp hospitals, and advanced cash against personal valuables, which valuables he redeemed *scrupulously and amazingly* after the war. He risked his life countless times.

In 1947 it was rumoured that Boonpong was in some political and financial trouble. The Far East PoW Association raised some funds which were sent out to Bangkok. Shortly afterwards Boonpong and his wife established the Boonpong Bus Company which remains *one of Bangkok's successful* bus companies to this day.

In recognition of his services and courage, Boonpong was awarded the George Medal in 1948. Every Christmas Boonpong kept in touch with many British friends; he and his cards will be greatly missed.

THE VENERABLE W. T. WARDLE

T. E. E. writes:—

The Ven Walter Thomas Wardle, Archdeacon of Gloucester from 1949 and Residentiary Canon of Gloucester Cathedral from 1948, who died on February 12, was the Senior Archdeacon of England and Senior Residentiary Canon.

In recent times no one has been an archdeacon longer than 33 years. When asked once by another archdeacon who had just retired when did he think of retiring, he replied "Not normally before 11.30!"

His wit in conversation, his "bon mots"—he was in many respects a twentieth-century Sidney Smith—his love, generosity and deep understanding and a very forgiving spirit made him a "beloved uncle" to scores of diocesan clergy and their families for over 30 years. Although a bachelor, one felt he had the most enormous family.

He was a big man in every way—born in Southsea on July 22, 1900, in 1919 he saw service in Northern Russia with the British Expeditionary Force sent to Archangel to help the White Russians against the Bolsheviks. On leaving the Army, he went up to Pembroke College, Oxford and later Ripon Hall.

After a curacy in Winchester and one year as a chaplain in Montana, Switzerland, in 1929 he become Rector of Wolferton on the Sandringham Royal Estate. Here he gained the friendship of King George V and Queen Mary.

In 1938 he came to Gloucestershire as Vicar of Great and Little Barrington. In 1943 he became Vicar of Charlton Kings, *Cheltenham*, and in 1948 came to the cathedral and the archdeaconry.

The diocese, the cathedral and the King's School, Gloucester, were his life. To each of these he gave unstinted service and was totally dedicated. He served under five Bishops of Gloucester and three Deans. It was fitting that he should die in harness.

A Diocesan Bishop once asked him if he had ever thought of taking a sabbatical; to which Walter Wardle replied "No, all I ask is a fortnight off before the funeral". The Lord actually gave him two months!

LADY KELLY

Lady Kelly, widow of Sir Gerald Kelly, KCVO, PPRA, died on February 13 at the age of 83. She was Lilian, fifth daughter of S. Ryan, and she was married in 1920. Generally known as Jane, she was said to have been painted by her husband no fewer *than 50 times and* her portrait appeared at Royal Academy exhibitions with unfailing regularity. Her husband died in 1972.

ADMIRAL VERNER

Admiral Waldemar Verner, a shop window dresser who became an East German Deputy Defence Minister, died on February 15. He was 67. Verner fled to Scandinavia in 1933 after detention by the Nazis and spent the war years there. He returned in 1945 to East Germany

Correction
Mr Ben Nicholson's first wife was Winifred Roberts, herself a gifted painter.

Moreover Miles Kington

I read in a newspaper several years ago an article on A. A. Milne, which was odd as it wasn't his centenary year. The piece centred mainly on the curious names given to Winnie the Pooh in translation; of them all, none was more curious than the name given to him in Brazil, which is Dudu der Puf. This memorable nomenclature — the only detail of the article, in fact, that I can recall — has inspired me in centenary year to go to Mr Milne's agents and rediscover the other forms in which the bear of little brain reappears overseas.

As it turns out, they oscillate wildly between attempts to preserve the Pooh name at all costs and to get right away from it. Swedish is quite happy to settle for Winnie Nalle Puh, whereas next door in Norway they see him as Ole Brumm, a name which for inexplicable reasons strikes me as just right. The Dutch see him prosaically as Winnie-de-Poeh, the Italians have Winnie-Puh l'Orsetto and in places where they talk Esperanto they talk about Winnie-la-Pu (the sex change is, I hope, illusory) but in Hungary he is Micimacko, in *Poland he is Kubus Puchatec* and in Danish he re-emerges as Peter Plys.

Sometimes, he undergoes a mere half-change. In Romania they throw out the Pooh and make him Winnie Ursuletul. In Czechoslovakia they drop the Winnie and make him, depending on whether you speak Czech or Slovak, Medvidek Pu or Macko Puf, this latter having strange contradictory overtones of machismo and poovery. The Russians publish both Pooh books in one volume called mysteriously *Vinni Pukh i Vse-vse-vse*.

But what perplexes me is the total absence of Dudu der Puf. In Portuguese, which is surely the language of Brazil, he is known only as Joenica-Puff. Well, she. And yet I will go on oath as having read that millions of Brazilians know and love him as Dudu der Puf. So if any readers happen to have Brazilian children and can enlighten me, I would be glad to hear from them.

University news

St Andrews
A grant of £20,199 has been awarded by the Science and Engineering Research Council to Dr Eric Priest for research into magnetic field annihilation.

Aberdeen
The following honorary degrees are to be awarded in July:
DD: The Rev A S Todd, MA, BD, minister of St Machar Cathedral, Old Aberdeen; the Rev Professor R McL Wilson, PhD (Cantab), professor of biblical criticism at St Andrews.
LLD: Professor Derek C Burke, PhD, professor of biological sciences, Warwick University; D Mc Gordon, MA (Aberd), formerly Ambassador to Austria; Professor Dame Sheila Sherlock, MD (Edin), professor of medicine at the Royal Free Hospital Medical School, London University.

Newcastle
Grants
Science and Engineering Research Council: £58,584 to Professor Roger H Pain and Dr Richard Virden to support research into the penicillinase group of enzymes; £24,185 to A H Rhodes, BSc, MSc, for a project on the assessment of pavement loading for the allocation of road track costs.
Medical Research Council: £49,763 to Professor David Kerr and Dr Michael Ward for research into protein nutrition in patients on continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis.

Birmingham
A grant of £90,000 has been awarded by the Royal Institute for the Blind to Dr M J Tobin for the continuing investigation of partially sighted children.

[redacted]

President Vigdis Finnbogadottir begins an official visit to Britain today. This report looks at a land associated in Britain with cod wars, chess contests and, wrongly, with a polar climate. Iceland, though deeply conscious of its past, has changed faster in the last 40 years than almost any other nation in Europe

Iceland



Supporters greeting President Vigdis Finnbogadottir at her home after the announcement of her election victory in 1980. Gunnar Elisson

A big little country

A not unsympathetic observer remarked that the trouble with Iceland was that this nation of 230,000, living on a virtually uninhabitable island in the north Atlantic and until recently overwhelmingly dependent on catching fish, behaved as if the population was 20 million.

Iceland has all the features of a much larger state: a diplomatic service, a national airline (itself a merger between two companies), a university teaching such expensive subjects as medicine and engineering, and a television service covering the whole country. There is a National Theatre, a symphony orchestra and even a budding film industry. An opera company was recently launched in a converted cinema, and ballet is also performed.

Even Parliament (the Althing) with a total of 60 seats, has two houses, a legacy of the 1840s, which critics today argue should be switched to a single chamber. Inside that Parliament sit four parties, none of which has managed to secure an overall majority in a general election since 1931, when Iceland was still joined in a union with Denmark. The need to forge a working coalition every time the country goes to the polls makes for a high level of political intensity.

After the latest elections in December, 1979, it took two months, an unusually long time by Icelandic standards, to cobble together a government.

What happened then has left a painful legacy. When none of the party chairmen was able to form an administration, Dr Gunnar Thoroddsen, supported by a small group from the Independence Party went into coalition with the Progressives, whose roots lie in the important cooperative movement, and the People's Alliance.

These seemed to be strange bedfellows, and Icelanders are still arguing about what happened. The Independence Party did not formally split, but 17 of its 22 MPs are in opposition. Seating arrangements in the Althing present no problem. Members' places are drawn by lots, irrespective of party, at the start of a session.

Amazingly, both government and opposition MPs attend meetings of the Independence Party, although separate caucuses are also held. Party members who tried to force a clean break at the last annual conference were unsuccessful.

A motion to expel the Prime Minister and his supporters was withdrawn. Another, less extreme way, was found to try to heal the party's pride. By a margin of more than three to one delegates exhorted the three Independence Party Ministers to resign and the two other dissidents to stop supporting them, so that the party could unite in attempting to form a new government.

The Independence Party are in effect the Conservatives, and the People's Alliance the most left-wing group. Their enemies call them Communists. This is too sweeping. The alliance is a descendant of the Communist Party of Iceland, which gained momentum during the depression years of the 1930s. The alliance includes Marxists, but is a broader church than some of its opponents allow, and it now presents itself as Socialist.

The day martial law was proclaimed in Poland, PA protestors demonstrated outside the Polish Embassy in Reykjavik. The alliance was also quick off the mark to congratulate President Mitterrand on his election. An irony is that the PA is against Iceland's membership of Nato, while the Prime Minister and all the opposition support the commitment to the defence pact of which Iceland, a state without armed forces of its own, was a founder member in 1949. The programme issued when the present government was formed in February, 1980, omits any specific reference to Nato, and talks of emphasizing the implementation of an independent foreign policy.

But there is no suggestion that this implies a neutralist course. The manifesto simply talks of strengthening Iceland's "participation in the work of the United Nations and the Nordic Council. . .".

Icelandic politicians have developed the habit of being able to ride out contradictory policies. This is not the first time the PA has taken part in a government not committed to closing down the Nato base at Keflavik, near Reykjavik, which is operated by the United States.

Dr Thoroddsen told *The Times:* "The People's Alliance has always been against our membership of Nato and against the Keflavik base. But this government will follow the same foreign and defence policies as before. In Parliament the great majority are for this policy. Our main objectives in this government are fighting inflation and ensuring full employment. We have had success with both these objectives."

The Prime Minister discussed his reasons for taking a rump of his party into government not just with the politically compatible Progressives but with the previously unacceptable PA. Referring to the two months delay, he said that if Parliament was unable to form a majority government, this could have led to the President appointing a non-parliamentary administration.

This would have been "a very great dishonour to Parliament. I thought it my duty to form this government so that the country could have a Parliamentary government, but my party rejected my proposal." He said this had been a cause of great disappointment to him.

Outside, the cynical argument is heard that after a lifetime in politics, Dr Thoroddsen, an unsuccessful candidate for the Presidency in 1968, was set on becoming Prime Minister, with this probably the last chance. Nevertheless, the experience of the break with most of his colleagues for someone who has been in the Independence Party for 50 years, seems to have saddened him.

The intensity of political life is one reason for not regarding Iceland as another Lilliput. The Althing may be tiny, but it is the product of a democratic tradition, admittedly dormant for centuries, older than that of Westminster.

Another reason for the outside world to take Iceland more seriously than its population and resources might first suggest is its stategic position.

Keflavik is a base for the American surveillance of submarine traffic in the north Atlantic. Controversy has been fuelled in the past by allegations that nuclear weapons are stationed in Iceland. Aircraft stationed there can carry such arms.

This claim was published in Washington in 1975 and subsequently repeated in Stockholm but not in Moscow. In 1977, Mr Kosygin, the late Soviet Prime Minister, said in a speech made on the occasion of a visit to Moscow by the then Icelandic Premier that there were no nuclear weapons in Iceland, and expressed his pleasure at this.

Denis Taylor

What is an Icelander?

Magnus Magnusson discusses his countrymen

So warm once the thaw begins

There is a wry joke current in Iceland, and much appreciated by the Icelanders themselves, about the refugee who arrives in Iceland and asks for asylum there.

"Why do you need asylum?" he is asked by the Immigration people.

"Because", he replies, "anyone who actually wants to live in Iceland must be a lunatic".

It's not really as bad as that. But it has never been an easy country to inhabit. Indeed, about 70 per cent of it is literally uninhabitable — the great central plateau of ice-caps and black volcanic deserts. This helps to explain why, in a country that is larger than Ireland, there are only some 230,000 inhabitants, almost half of whom live in the connurbation of Reykjavik, the capital, in the south west.

So who are these 230,000 Icelanders? Well, they certainly are not Eskimos living in igloos. Their standard of living is extremely high. They are of Nordic stock, part of Scandinavia culturally if not geographically. Their language is the basic Norse tongue that was spoken throughout Scandinavia during the Viking Age.

But whereas Norwegian and Swedish and Danish have changed considerably down the centuries, the language of Iceland has remained relatively pure, so that Icelanders can read the medieval sagas as easily as English-speaking peoples can read Shakespeare. And Icelanders do a great deal of reading — and writing. They buy more books per head of population than any other nation in the world and out of our profusion of poets, playwrights, and novelists, they have produced a Nobel prizewinner in Halldor Laxness.

Historically, Iceland was first discovered and settled, chiefly from south western Norway, in the second half of the ninth century AD, which makes it the youngest country in Europe. It was totally uninhibited then, and always had been, apart from a few Irish hermit-monks who had found their way there a few years earlier in their frail leather-built currachs.

It was one of the first of those Viking discoverers who bestowed on the country its somewhat misleading name. He was a Norwegian Viking called Floki. He had heard rumours of this remote country just below the Arctic Circle, and determined to settle there with his family and friends. Off he set, and arrived in time to enjoy a glorious summer of sunshine, and abundance. Alas! So beguiling was the weather that he made no provision for winter fodder for his livestock. As luck would have it, the winter that followed was a hard one, and the spring was late, and cold. All the livestock died. Floki decided to abandon the place; as he left, he saw drift-ice from the Arctic still choking the northern fjords, and felt disgruntled enough to label (and libel) the country with the name it has had ever since: Iceland.

Formally, the climate is described by meteorologists as "cold-tempered oceanic", or "temperate sub-boreal", rather than "Arctic". This is because the south and west coasts are warmed by a branch of the Gulf Stream, while the prevailing south westerly winds bring moist, warm air that tends to make the weather comparatively mild and rainy. In the north, where the coast almost reaches the Arctic circle, polar winds, and sea-currents make for a much colder, drier climate.

It tends to make travel hazardous in winter. But to my mind the most difficult thing to cope with is not the cold, but the lack of daylight. From the middle of November to the end of January, it doesn't get light until 10 o'clock in the morning, and it gets dark again by three o'clock in the afternoon. And that can become very demoralizing.

At the other end of the extreme, there's the midnight sun at midsummer, when the sun slides along the northern horizon and there is no darkness at night. It tends to make the Icelanders somewhat dour and torpid in the winter, when they go into a kind of spiritual semi-hibernation, and by contrast, full of almost manic activity in the summer months, when no-one ever seems to sleep at all.

In general, the Icelanders, like all northerners tend to be reserved, and undemonstrative at first meeting. But this, too, is as misleading as the name. As soon as they thaw out, they show themselves to be exceptionally warm and hospitable, passionately interested in the outside world.

It is contrasts and paradoxes of behaviour that one notices, just as the contrast between the ice caps and the fiery volcanoes of the interior is so marked. They are kindly people, but when it comes to politics (especially politics) they can be murderously unkind to each other. They love, almost revere, the herds of ponies that roam almost wild in the valleys, but have little compunction about eating them as well. They are of peasant stock but feel (and behave) like princes. They are cosmopolitans rooted in provincialism. They are fiercely patriotic, and belligerently pacifist. They resolutely refuse to have any armed forces, yet they took on the British Navy in three cod wars and won. They revel in their past, the golden age of the saga tales of Viking heroes, but are totally committed to a very fashionable present. They are ardent republicans who adore Royalty.

All this, has a great deal to do with their own history. The Icelandic nation was founded as a republic, a commonwealth without kingship. Its Parliament, the Althing, was established in 930 AD — the oldest surviving Parliament in the world. The early Icelanders revered the concept of law, yet lawlessness and disorder was rife. They lost their independence in 1262 to Norway but continue to feel independent. They underwent centuries of colonial oppression from Denmark. They suffered appalling privations from bad weather, and a series of natural catastrophies, famine, volcanic eruptions, intense cold yet when the Danes proposed to evacuate the surviving population at the end of the 18th century, when the country was at its lowest ebb, it was indignantly refused.

Survival. It became a way of life. The worse conditions became, the more stubbornly the Icelanders clung to their homeland. Love of their country was a constant theme in their poetry, pride in their past a constant solace.

They came to cherish the very volcanoes that so often threatened to destroy them, learned not to fear them, and eventually to tame them.

Nothing can be more extraordinary than the way in which the inhabitants of the Westmann Islands, just off the south coast of Iceland, coped with "their" volcano when it burst into life during the night of January 22/23 1973, right on the threshhold of the fishing town on the island of Heimaey. By dawn, all the 5,000 inhabitants had been evacuated safely to the mainland — and a long, grim battle against the volcano itself had begun.

Remorselessly, day by day, the town was gradually engulfed by burning ashes or creeping lava. And just as remorselessly, the squads of volunteers fought back. Week after week, they pumped countless millions of gallons of sea-water on the crawling tongue of lava, trying to cool it sufficiently to form a barrier-crust that would deflect its course away from the harbour. And in the end, they won. By the time the re-eruption came to an end, five months later, the lava had spent itself on the harbour approaches, not the precious harbour itself — and Heimaey was left with a splendid new breakwater!

Heimaey today is once again a thriving, bustling

continued on next page

Lady with a love of peace

The world is getting used to the idea of women leading governments. Israel, India, Sri Lanka, Portugal and Norway, as well as Britain, have all had female Prime Ministers. But President Vigdis Finnbogadottir of Iceland, who begins an official visit to Britain today is the first women to be democratically elected as head of state.

She has never been a member of a political party. "I would never be able to accept the rules". she told *The Times* in Reykjavikearlier this month. She disclaims any long-term ambition for the office. When it was first suggested to her in 1979 that she should run for the presidency, "I thought it was a joke. But you never know how people see you."

A late entrant in the 1980 presidential race against three male candidates, Vigdis Finnbogadottir was taken to task by the Right for having in the past opposed the American-manned Nato base at Keflavik, outside the capital.

But her office precludes any involvement in party political issues, although the presidency itself is not purely ceremonial. The president has a right to veto any parliamentary Bill, but this sanction can only come into effect if upheld by a referendum. Such a presidential prerogative has never been exercized since Iceland gained its independence from Denmark 38 years ago.

She described the role of president as being that of a kind of midwife to the political parties who have to agree on forming a government after every Icelandic general election. Not since the 1931 poll has a single party won a majority of seats.

President Vigdis confines herself now to saying that in her advocacy of peace she is a realist and is aware that the world is divided into different camps. But she was preoccupied with the danger of people's attention drifting away from the necessity for peace: "Think about it from day to day, that's the main thing", she said.

Where she feels no inhibitions is an arena into which British candidates for high office would hesitate to venture. To have intellectual interests is as natural in Iceland as going fishing.

"I believe I was elected because I talked culture, culture and history", she said. "This society, as an industrialized society, is so young. All the banks and big

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ICELAND

Magnus Magnusson

continued from page one

fishing port. The people who had been evacuated have returned and rebuilt their town. The radiant heat from the lava is being used to boil water for a central heating system for every new house. It was the first time in history that man had fought a volcano and won.

Heimaey is both symbol and symptom of the resilience that kept Iceland alive during the difficult centuries. That very act of survival has made the Icelanders more intensely aware of their country than anything else could. It forged the patriotism that informed the independence movement that was crowned in 1944 when Iceland once again became an independent republic, just as the spectacular contrasts of Icelandic nature have helped to create the contrasts of the Icelanders' nature.

There could be another factor to be taken into account, however. Although the first settlers of Iceland were Nordic, many of them brought with them wives or concubines from Ireland, if they happened to stop off there on the way. Some scholars think there may have been as much as 40 per cent Celtic blood in that early settlement stock. Perhaps it is the Irish connexion that has helped to make the Icelanders who they are.


Icelandic Photo and Press Service

Thingvellir: the lava arena where the open-air Icelandic Parliament (the Althing) first met in 930, and where Iceland was proclaimed an independent republic in 1944. The modern Althing meets indoors in the centre of Reykjavik.

Seventy two thousand foreign visitors came to Iceland last year. Some were on brief transatlantic stopovers. Others took time to explore the country. Dick Phillips describes reminders of an earlier age

Where even the wheel arrived late

Two aspects of Iceland will strike the visitor with an impact paralleled in few other countries. The first is the twin feature of geology and scenery. These are so closely related that even the most casual observer cannot pass without learning something of glaciology, volcanology, and the tangle of "ologies" that make up geomorphology.

Within a small area, quite different circumstances have produced, in very recent times, totally different landscapes, the formation processes continuing, at far above their expected rate, before our eyes today. Iceland is God's gift to David Bellamy, and to anyone seeking to explain to others, or see for himself, the secrets — not secret in Iceland — behind the nature of our earth and our environment.

The second aspect is less tangible, less easy to label, but every traveller notices that between the ports and the interior deserts, habitation is almost entirely in isolated farmhouses, each building standing square in its own home-field, remote from its neighbours.

In the last 80 years townships have grown up around the harbours where the old trading stations formerly stood, also in isolation, and there is a handful of inland "towns", even more recent in growth, at natural commercial and communications centres, Selfoss, by far the largest, dates from the late 1920s and 40 years ago had still fewer than 400 people.

We can talk of up-country Iceland, but very recently this was the Iceland of virtually the entire population. Each farm had to be built where there was naturally drained land, and access to extensive "out-hay" — uncultivated grass which before the days of wire fencing was laboriously mown, turned by hand, and brought home on pack-horses — for the winter feed on which the household's survival on its own farm depended.

Older people living today were born into this world of undrained land, unfenced fields and desperately primitive communications. The modern road building programme is always dated from the first vehicular road bridge, which in 1891 enabled that revolutionary new vehicle, the one-axled horse-drawn cart, to reach southern Iceland from the capital. Before that, the government roads department's job was not so much to build roads, as to put up cairns to show where the roads would have been if they had existed at all. Many or these lines of beautifully built cairns still mark the old routes.

The oldest people may still remember their first sight of the ultra-modern — as it seemed — horse-drawn cart which in most places came and disappeared in a little over 50 years — just one aspect of the total transport revolution, pack-horse to jet aircraft, which occurred in a single lifetime, and which is itself only one of many facets of the transformation of living standards in the same period.

In my own valley, the last horse-drawn cart went out of use in 1960. Pack-horses, useful in more specialized circumstances, were regularly used to take out provisions for the autumn sheep gathering in the uninhabited interior up to 1967.

In the past 30 years, local museums have been established in most counties. The custodians are proud to show how old their exhibits are, but what astonishes the *foreigner is their newness.*

Many, perhaps most, of the items displayed, first adopted by a highly cultivated people for their incredibly hard subsistence economy, were still in regular use on some farms into the 1950s, and in isolated cases much later. It is difficult for us to enter into the late nineteenth and early twentieth century world where these implements, fashioned from driftwood, bone, horse-hair or lyme-grass, were the basic materials of household and farming existence.

There is a strange contrast between the tenacity of the nation over the centuries and the lack of individual innovation. Not only was the wheel decidedly late, no one ever thought, for example, to build a stone arch. Jon Jonsson of Vogar, a local genius who lived by the lake of Myvatn in the 1850s and 1860s, was in time to be the first man in his area to learn to swim; the first to introduce instrumental music; the first to learn a language other than Icelandic, Danish or Latin; and the first to decorate his living room. He was the second in his area to plant potatoes, almost 100 years after their introduction *to Iceland, and was a pioneer* in learning joinery and building stone walls to control his stock.

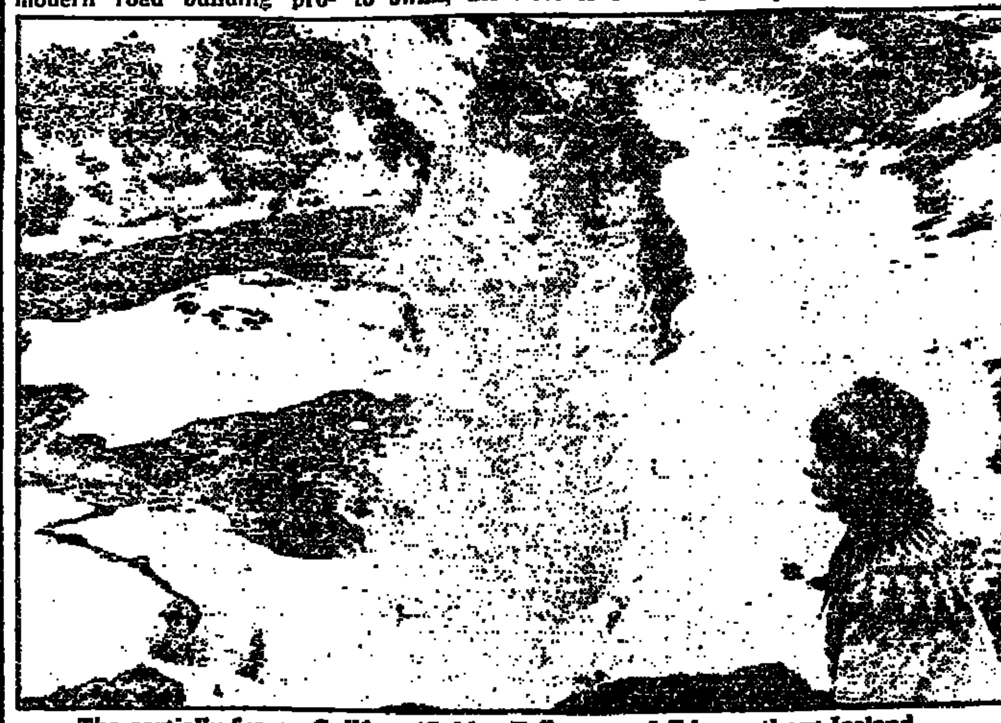
Yet his was a far from lethargic community; his diary also tells of his neighbours forming a reading society, examining the advantages of emigration to America, and subscribing to help farmers in another part of the country who had had to slaughter their flocks to prevent the spread of disease.

Many of the nineteenth century travellers to Iceland thought their experiences remarkable enough to warrant writing books about them. Some were quite notable people, such as W. J. Hooker of Kew, Sir Henry Holland, Lord Dufferin, Sabine Baring-Gould, Anthony Trollope, William Morris, Viscount Bryce, Sir Richard Burton, W. G. Collingwood and, coming to this century, W. H. Auden and Louis MacNeice.

The value of their writings varies a lot. Some wrote of nothing but their personal hardships, and many jumped to false conclusions from superficial evidence; but most are well worth reading for a glimpse into life at or just before the period that can still be remembered.

Details may be in error. But when we read of the family at Hals, 12 people living in a turf-walled room 12 feet by eight, and having only one cooking pot — and that had a hole in it — we cannot help admiring a nation that survived many generations under such conditions, to rise to one of the highest standards of living in Europe today.

Although most of the population has chosen to give up the hard life that is inevitable for farmers in the Icelandic climate, the farms, now with more machinery and fewer people, remain in testimony of the way of life that brought Iceland through the centuries since the Settlement. And still, in the 1980s the discerning traveller will find traces of the old, hard conditions from which the modern prosperity has so recently arisen.


The partially frozen Gullfoss (Golden Falls) waterfall in southern Iceland.

Peace lady

continued from page I

institutions date from this century. I am of the generation that has worked with these corporations, and this has required so much time that there is less time for passing on all the legends of the sagas. We don't have any castles, we have no cathedrals, but we have an art that is passed on through a tremendous lot of stories and poetry."

President Vigdis, who is 51, speaks of herself as someone capable of bridging the generations. She was brought up with the tradition of the sagas passed on to her by her parents and grandparents, has experienced the rise of post-war prosperity, the scattering of families and the advent of television.

She says that the young, old people, farmers, fishermen and intellectuals voted for her. In Iceland, farmers' wives had great responsibilities, and fishermen were used to leaving their women in charge when they were away at sea. But she readily concedes that many women voted against her, otherwise she would have carried much more than 33.8 per cent of the poll.

This was the first time that a woman had come forward as a presidential candidate. In the Middle Ages Icelandic women had equal rights to divorce and an automatic half share of the property if a marriage was dissolved.

But today only three of the 60 MPs sitting in the Icelandic Parliament (the Althing) are women, and it is said to be difficult to persuade them to stand. The president said she thought that many women had a preconceived idea that their head of state should be a man with a wife at his side.

Vigdis Finnbogadottir was married early to a former schoolfriend and divorced 20 years ago. She has a young adopted daughter, Astridur. This is another sign of a lack of convention, for this was one of the first cases in the country of a child being adopted by a single person.

President Vigdis believes that Icelandic girls should concentrate on reaching the same educational standards as men. When they do, "equality will come automatically."

She studied in France, Denmark and Sweden as well as at the University of Iceland. The subjects covered during these years included French and English, philosophy and the history of drama. She has taught Icelanders French both in school and through television, and lectured on French drama at the university. Like many Icelanders, she has done two jobs at the same time, in her case teaching and working first at the National Theatre and then at the Reykjavik Theatre, where she was the director from 1972 until 1980.

For a number of years, she has been involved in Nordic cultural affairs, and in September she is to open the "Scandinavia Today" exhibition in Washington, New York and Minneapolis at the invitation of the other Nordic heads of state.

"I always project Scandinavia as much as possible, especially Icelandic culture. I have travelled relatively often to France and Britain, and it's extremely difficult to find literature and art from the Scandinavian countries. Ibsen is always on the stage in Britain, But nothing has been translated since Ibsen and Strindberg."

"My ideal would be to have a special fund for scholarships for people from Britain, France, Germany and other nations who could spend a year or two in one of the Scandinavian countries as a preparation for specializing in translating literature." Her suggestion was that the costs of such a scheme could be split equally between the student's home and host country.

Denis Taylor



President Vigdis speaking at her inauguration in Parliament on August 1, 1980

The snags in netting the rich harvest from the sea

Strange as it may seem, comparatively few Icelanders are fishermen. There are many more jobs in construction and manufacturing, which includes the building of small trawlers and the making of fishing equipment, clothing and furniture, and as many in farming and the service industries.

About 5,000 men at sea are backed up by another 9,000 employees in fish processing. Modernization means that even the number of fishermen is too high. Manning on the trawlers was an element in the pay strikes by Icelandic fishermen in December and January.

With the extensive updating of the trawler fleet during the 1970s, the 90 vessels now operating from Icelandic ports are too many. Even the extension of territorial limits to 200 miles, after more than 20 years of skirmishing with Britain in the cod wars had not provided the Icelanders with an untold harvest.

"We are approaching the maximum sustainable yield of cod stocks", Mr Steingrimur Hermannsson, the Minister for Fisheries, said in Reykjavik. In fact he thought this could almost be said to apply to demersal species in general. "We are getting about 670,000 tonnes a year of demersal fish, including about 450,000 tonnes of cod".

There can be unpredictability about certain types of fish. In 1967, for example, the herring stock collapsed. Now it looks as if the capelin stock is much smaller than expected. The authorities have had to allow the 52 boats which fish exclusively for capelin to catch some cod.

Restrictions on cod fishing include a ban for 150 days in the year, although trawlers may bring in other varieties such as haddock. Skippers are permitted some leeway on those days. But if they bring in more than a certain percentage of cod this is liable to be confiscated by the inspectors who operate in all Icelandic harbours.

Iceland does not have fish markets like those familiar in British ports. Prices are determined through negotiations between buyers and sellers four times a year. When a catch is landed it is weighed at an official weighing station.

America is the chief market for Icelandic exports, mainly frozen fish. All sales to the United States were worth $128.9m in the first nine months of last year. There are three Icelandic fish processing plants in the eastern United States.

Frozen fish fillets (valued at $27,901,000 in the same period) headed the list of exports to the United Kingdom, followed in value by capelin oil ($12,206,000). This, the next most lucrative fish product, came after primary aluminium and aluminium alloys. Next in value came fresh fish and fish on ice ($7,242,000).

After the intermittent tensions of the past three decades, relations between Iceland and Britain are good. The British market has been historically of the greatest importance for Icelandic fish since the fourteenth century, and sales in the United Kingdom of Icelandic cod and haddock are increasing.

Portugal is Iceland's most important customer in the European Free Trade Area (Efta). Salted cod sales to the Portuguese in the first three quarters of 1981 came to $97m. Nigerian and West Germany, as well as the Soviet Union, are other important markets.

D.T.

Tom Hanley



Landing the catch at Heimaey, the community which was reborn after the great volcanic eruption of 1973

In the country where high inflation doesn't seem to hurt

At first sight Iceland seems to defy the laws of economic gravity. For years inflation has been far above anywhere else in Europe and until now *nothing terrible has happened*. It is almost as if Iceland is a test case to confound the monetarists.

Fewer predictions now look more outdated than the present Government's goal, set when it took office two years ago of bringing the 1982 inflation rate down to a level similar to those in Iceland's main trading partners.

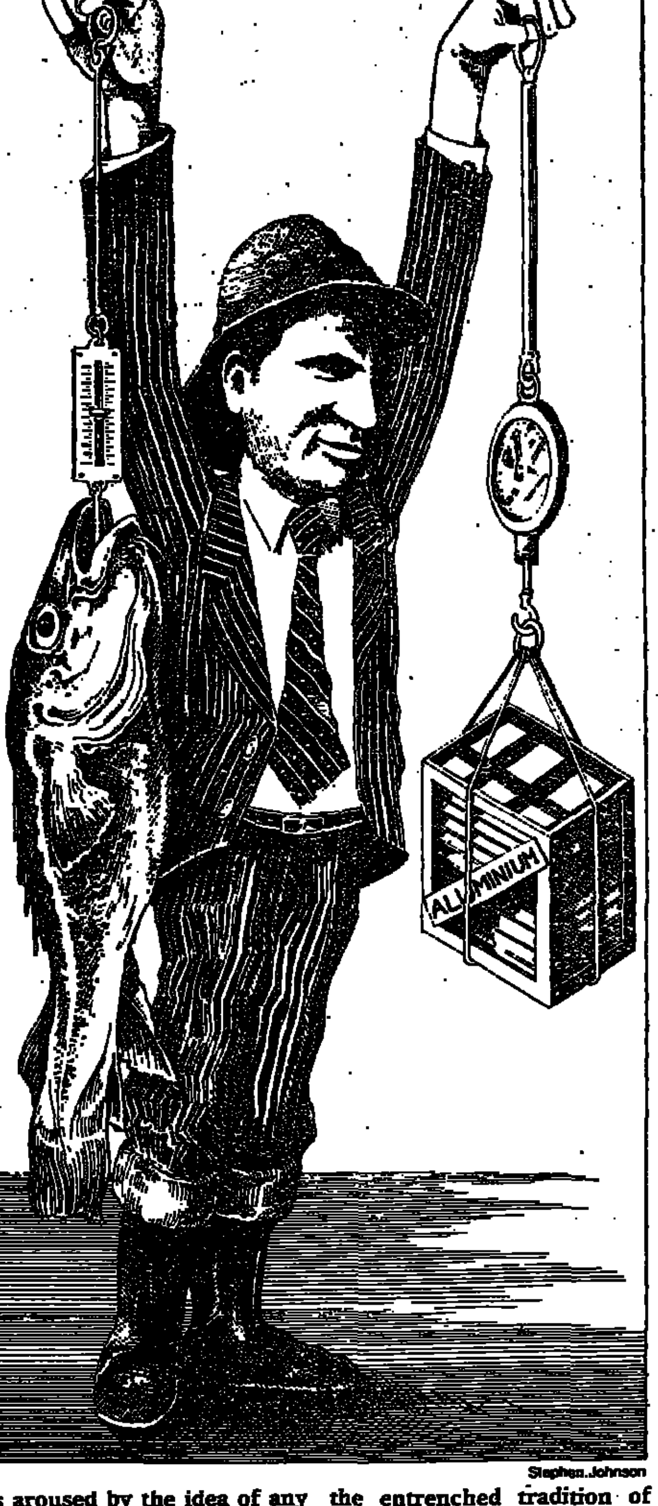
Ambitions now centre on getting it down to between 30 and 35 per cent in the calendar year 1982, a significant improvement on the pattern of the previous year. In the 12 *months ending* April 30, 1980, the cost of living had risen by more than 62 per cent, a national record.

Icelanders are not easily alarmed. They have coped with the sort of inflation levels which some British pundits in the early and mid-1970s claimed automatically meant the death of democracy in any society.

Soaring inflation has been accompanied by almost full employment and a steady increase in affluence. If this is still below that found elsewhere in Scandinavia, Iceland has achieved a higher gnp per capita (more than $12,000) than Britain, and good levels of health, welfare and education. Life expectancy is the highest in the world. Democracy has certainly not died. The official unemployment figure runs below 0.5 per cent. The late 1970s saw an annual net emigration of about 700, mainly to Norway, Sweden and Denmark where Icelanders do not require work permits.

There should, therefore, be little surprise that Icelanders have not whole-heartedly embraced the monetarist doctrine that inflation is a bad thing, and not only a bad thing but an evil from which countless economic and social disasters are bound to flow.

Politicians, bankers and businessmen may be convinced that inflation must be tackled more vigorously. But apart from the lack of public panic about this issue, their *room for manoeuvre is* limited by two factors. There is the political unacceptability of any significant unemployment on a society of only 230,000 people, which would provoke damaging levels of emigration.



Stephen Johnson

Considerable apprehension is aroused by the idea of any sharply deflationary policy. *The fear is that this would* either bring unemployment or reduce living standards. Against this is the public assumption that there is no overwhelming evidence that high inflation has hurt people very much.

The second key factor is the entrenched tradition of wage indexation, which helps *to perpetuate high inflation.* Every three months pay levels are automatically adjusted in line with the cost of living, thus cushioning individual workers against the effects of price rises and ensuring *more* inflation in the pipeline. Pensions are also largely index-linked. Alongside inflation, Iceland has therefore managed to introduce an element of predictability into incomes.

Unions also seek wage increases for their members on top of the basic indexation, as natural response if purchasing power is to be improved in a highly inflationary economy.

The outsider is told that the tone of wage bargaining is much less bitter than in Britain because Iceland is far less class conscious, but clearly wage indexation does not entirely take the sting out of negotiations. Last December the fishermen went on strike to secure higher prices from the processors, and these were *conceded* in a government package last month.

Although attempts have been made to take steam out of the indexation mechanism, the Progressive Party, one of the three in the government coalition, believes that to bring inflation down indexation should be limited to such *essential items* as the *cost of* electricity, food and clothing. The Social Democrats, who are in opposition, want to give priority to escaping from what they see as the vicious circle of wages and prices. They would protect wage earners against loss of purchasing power by lowering income tax.

Iceland's high inflation began during the Second World War, the period which saw the beginning of the transition from relative poverty by the standards of the rest of Western Europe to today's prosperity.

For years the inflation rate hovered around the 10 per cent mark at a time when single digit figures were the norm elsewhere. The spiral took off in the 1970s, and inflation has been in the 40 to 60 per cent band for several years.

In the past couple of years, interest rates have increasingly been managed in line with inflation. Bank borrowing and lending have been restrained, and savings are rising as a proportion of gnp. "We are gradually battening down the hatches", I was told at the Central Bank.

"We have been able to live with this inflation because we have kept our exports *competitive through devaluation*. The policy has been to keep the exchange rate as stable as possible and have relatively small devaluations", one banker said.

The National Bank of Iceland concluded in *an* analysis late last year after a formal devaluation of the krona by 6.5 per cent, the third during 1981, that "instead of a continuous adjustment of the rate of exchange to inflation differentials, formal devaluations at rather frequent intervals are preferred by the present Government".

High export prices for fish and fish products have protected Iceland so far from the harsh economic winds blowing in the outside world, but the limits of this *strategy* are increasingly perceived in Reykjavik.

"Fishing has to be our main production and fish products will be the main export of Iceland. But we have to diversify", Dr Gunnar Thoroddsen, the Prime Minister, told *The Times*.

Increasing emphasis is being placed on Iceland's energy resources, both as a substitute for imported oil, most of which is bought from the Soviet Union at unpredictable Rotterdam spot market prices, and for processing imported raw materials and reexporting them.

The unit cost of producing aluminium with hydro-electric power makes it worthwhile to import the ore all the way from Australia. Aluminium exports from Iceland to the United Kingdom in the first nine months of 1981 were worth $13,472,000 almost half the value of the biggest single item, frozen fish fillets ($27,941,000).

Ferro-silicon sales to Britain in the same period ($2,323,000) were worth almost as much as frozen herring shipments ($2,447,000).

Fish products made up 90 per cent of Iceland's *exports* in 1970. That proportion has now dropped to 75 per cent. So a gradual shift is taking place, even although Iceland is only using 11 per cent of its estimated hydro-electric resources.

Mr Steingrimur Hermannsson, *Minister* of *Fisheries*, has been sounding a warning about the need for a greater spread of economic activity, particularly the need to develop power-intensive industries. "We shall not improve national income with present fish stocks," he said. "I am not sure that people realize we are at a crossroads."

Denis Taylor

The power still to be tapped

When Britain stopped taking Icelandic fish during the 1952 dispute on fishing limits — the first cod war — the Russians stepped into the breach and set the pattern for a trade which developed during the next three decades. Iceland sold the Russians fish and took their oil.

This dependence on Soviet sources has declined in recent years, and now amounts to 60 per cent of total energy imports. Alternative sources have included the British National Oil Corporation. But Iceland is still in the very early stages of exploiting its own energy resources. Only 11 per cent of the hydro-electric potential known to be technically exploitable has so far been harnessed.

More than 70 per cent of the population live in homes heated by geothermal power, but not more than 5 per cent of known energy from this source has been tapped.

Scientists at the University of Iceland are experimenting with alternative sources of fuel, including methanol derived from local peat as well as ammonia produced from air and water.

But any commercial exploitation of such sources is clearly a long way off. For the time being, Iceland remains dependent for about 40 per cent of its energy consumption on imported oil and petrol.

Large scale use of Iceland's hydro power began little more than a decade ago. The first 215 MW station at Burfell started up in 1969. This feeds the aluminium smelter at Straumsvik. A second plant at Sigalda (150 MW) supplies the ferro-silicon project at Hvalfjordur.

The National Power Company of Iceland foresees limits on the use of the hydro power now thought technically feasible to exploit. Many of the 100 potential sites "are small and economically unattractive and many others are *beset with ecological problems*", the company said in a recent study. It was now foreseen that only about 60 per cent of known hydro resources would ultimately be used. The company considers that technical and financial reasons will limit the scope for developing the *number* of feasible projects during the 1980s.

But in a more upbeat passage, it points out that 20 years ago geothermal power was thought to be of the same order of magnitude as that of Iceland's rivers and waterfalls. Now geothermal potential is believed to be many *times greater. The* drawback is that it is an inefficient resource from which to generate electricity.

Eighty-five per cent of geothermal energy is wasted if it is only used to produce electricity. "It is, of course, possible in many cases to combine the production of electrical energy from geothermal resources and house-heating projects and/or industrial use, or injecting the used steam back into the ground, thus making full use of all the available energy".

The likely pattern of any large scale industrial development is likely to continue that started in the 1960s, the processing of raw materials demanding a high power *content*. As well as aluminium and ferro-silicon these include magnesium which can be extracted from the sea.

A significant harnessing of hydropower may be circumscribed by nationalist sentiments. While Iceland is well situated for refining raw materials and shipping them to North America or Western Europe, a substantial injection of foreign capital would be necessary for significant industrial development. The implications of this for a country so conscious of its heritage, and so anxious to protect the environment from pollution, have not yet been thought through.

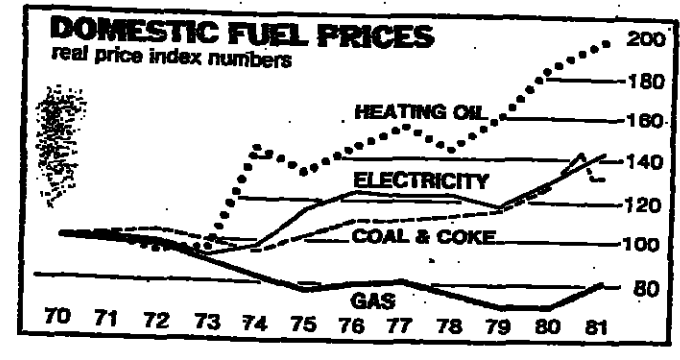
The Straumsvik smelter is owned by the Icelandic Aluminium Company, a subsidiary of Swiss Aluminium. The ferro-silicon operation is owned 55 per cent by the Government and 45 per cent by Elkem Spigerverket, of Norway. There will obviously be constraints on the continuing ability of an Icelandic government to take a majority shareholding in such projects.

D.T.

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BUSINESS NEWS

Gas tariffs double



The 23 per cent increase in domestic gas bills that British Gas is set to introduce from April means that gas tariffs will have nearly doubled in the last three years. But in real terms the new charges will not even bring gas prices back to the levels they were in 1970, according to Energy Department figures. Domestic gas consumers have fared much better than households that use other fuels. Heating oil has roughly doubled in real terms in the last decade.

N Sea bid details soon

Details of the bid approach for the small North Sea investment company CCP North Sea Associates are expected to be disclosed early next week. The company, in which Cluff Oil has a 30 per cent stake and which holds a 6 per cent net production interest in the North Sea Buchan field, was capitalized at just under £12m at yesterday's suspension price of 145p. The approach has been made by a British company, with market speculation focusing on companies such as Charterhouse and Lasmo.

Guernsey bank cash probe

A possible $13m (£7.1m) fraud at First National Bank of Chicago's Guernsey subsidiary is being investigated by a federal grand jury in Chicago. First National confirmed that it is looking into alleged irregularities surrounding a loan to a customer, made by its Guernsey subsidiary. It said appropriate action over the loan had been taken in 1981, which was reflected in the bank's fourth quarter results.

Portfolio Services to pay debts

Investors and creditors in Personal Portfolio Services will be repaid in full after the group's provisional liquidation, it was decided yesterday. This followed a meeting between the directors of the PPS, a Yorkshire-based group headed by Mr Andrew MacHutchinson, a former Slater Walker associate, and accountants Arthur Anderson. The group was one third owned by Mr George Barlow, a partner of the Manchester stockbrokers Illingworth Henriques, and was believed to be managing funds totalling £1.75m.

Onshore drilling

The Government yesterday awarded four onshore oil production licences covering some 880 square kilometres of Surrey, West Sussex and Hampshire, and stretching from Farnham to Henfield in Sussex. Conoco was unable to say how many wells it hopes to drill on the land.

● Vosper Hovermarine, the British company, has signed a £3m contract to build four passenger craft for Singapore.

● The department of Industry has written to 1500 companies in the telecommunications industry encouraging them to apply now for the new draft standards on telecommunications equipment.

Retail and industrial sales slide

By Our Industrial Staff

Leading retailers and companies in the chemicals and other industrial sectors are reporting a substantial slide in sales over the past few weeks. This comes after December's decline in manufacturing output to its lowest point for 14 years.

Far from supporting ministerial claims of an economic upturn, it suggests that trading conditions may be getting worse in a number of key sectors.

Performance in chemicals so far this year has been at best similar to last year, at worst, declining. ICI said that while December had been a bad month, exacerbated by the long Christmas lay-off, January had also been poor, although the bad weather would certainly have depressed demand.

Overall 1982 had started disappointingly, although February's figures would be expected to show some recovery.

The Chemical Industries Association reported "evidence of a very strong downturn" in December, and other chemical companies said output and demand remained low.

A combination of the recession and bad weather is responsible for the downswing in the motor industry accordinbg to the latest Society of Motor Manufacturing Trades figures which indicate sales of new cars were down 16 per cent in January.

Mr Con Justice, director of the motor trade division of BSG International which incorporates Bristol Street Motors however claims a 12 per cent upturn in sales of new cars so far this year compared with 1981. Increased sales have been particularly noticeable over the past three or four weeks, while the first fortnight of the new year was hit hard by poor weather and the after-effects of Christmas.

Mr Tom McAuliffe, chairman of BAT's Argos discount catalogue showroom chain, said yesterday that after two successful January sales weeks, trade collapsed until Argos's new season catalogue gave a lift to sales last week. "Until the new catalogue we have been taking less money than the same time last year even though since then we have increased our square footage through new store openings by 16 per cent," he said. The sales downturns had been across the board in consumer durables.

Demand is likely to remain low at least until the Budget and price increases such as those on gas and electricity will reduce consumer's disposable income further. Rumbelows, whose 400 outlets sell mainly electrical goods, reported a bouyant January partly because of an additional sales promotion late in the month, but a falling off in trade this month.

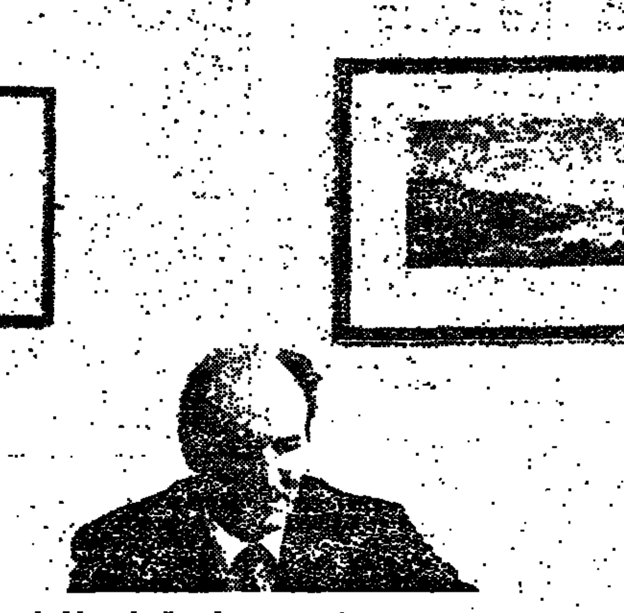
John Lewis Partnership's department stores saw a 6.8 per cent increase in sales the first week of this month, slightly below the target figure. The same pattern appears to have continued since then.

TI Creda, the consumer durables subsidiary of Tube Investments, reported disappointing January sales.

Electrolux of Luton reported a poor start to January with some improvement later in the month. But Orders are still hard to come by as retailers operate on slim stocks.

The picture in the textile industry remained gloomy, with one or two small producers reporting a decline.

But the British Steel Corporation said that there was no evidence of a downturn in the market which is likely to be refelcted in lower production levels.

Mr Robert Holmes a'Court speaking at a meeting of ACC shareholders in London yesterday, with Mr Tony Lucas, company secretary.

A'Court firm on shares transfer

By Philip Robinson

The Australian financier, Mr Robert Holmes a'Court hinted yesterday that he could think of no commercial circumstances in which he would release directors of Associated Communications Corporation from their promise to transfer their shares to him and give him control of Lord Grade's former company.

Although he has said in a High Court affidavit that he would be prepared to release the promises to accept his £36m takeover bid if it were the proper commercial course to take, he said that to lift release the directors he would have to turn the clock back to January 13, when his Bell Group made its offer.

That would mean him being dismissed as chairman and chief executive of ACC and that the financial support given to ACC by the Bell group — it has guaranteed £50m of borrowings and given an unconditional £10m line of credit — would have to stop. "There is not a way we would be able to turn the clock back," Mr Holmes a'Court said yesterday.

He said no directors had asked to be released from their irrevocable undertakings given to Mr Holmes a'Court at the first offer and all but one had signed a letter last week confirming their support for him in order to douse rumours that they were waivering.

Meanwhile, in the Appeal Court, Mr Holmes a'Court's rival, Mr Gerald Ronson was seeking an order to freeze any transfers of shares from the ACC directors to Mr Holmes a'Court.

The hearing of Heron Group's appeal was adjourned yesterday after one of the appeal judges had described the position as "absolutely dotty".

Lord Justice Brightman, sitting with Lord Justice Lawton and Lord Justice Templeman, said that from the "practical, ordinary commercial City" point of view it would be quite wrong for a company which must be worth more than £36m to be sold for that amount.

Lord Justice Templeman said that if Mr Holmes a Court, and the other directors "insisted" the matter would have to be aired in court.

The directors were now putting forward a "pig in a poke" and the court did not even know what the offers were.

If the ACC directors were not committed to the Bell offer, as soon as they realised that somebody had offered 66p for shares worth 85p every "decent" director would say: "I am not going to have that." Lord Justice Templeman said.

If the directors were not bound by their undertaking they should not accept the Bell offer.

Cut price cargo shipper Mr Frank Narby, above, whose reputation has been built up over the last decade by undercutting the more established cargo carriers, is selling half of his North Atlantic operation for $100m.

Mr Narby's company, the Cast shipping group, has run into cash problems in the middle of an expansion programme which is expected to cost the group more than $400m.

The decision to sell comes less than a week after the company attempted to reschedule about $50m payments on nine new ships to be completed within the next two years.

Narby has put half of his North American operation on the market 15 months after purchasing a secondhand fleet for $165m.

British Gas share of oilfield 'worth £450m'

By Jonathan Davis, Energy Correspondent

British Gas believes that its 50 per cent share of the Wytch Farm oil field in Dorset — which the Government has ordered it to sell — is worth £450 million.

It also claims that proven reserves on the Wytch Farm licence amount to 221 million barels, more than double the last official figure of 100 million barrels.

By the time possible reserves on other so far undrilled stuctures near the field are addded its total reserves could be as high as 349 million barrels — equivalent to a medium-sized North Sea field.

The figures were disclosed yesterday with the publication of a report from the House of Commons Select Committee on Energy on the enforced sale of Wytch Farm. British Gas gave the figures to the committee as a main reason for its rooted opposition to the disposal, which was ordered last summer by Mr David Howell, who was then Secretary of State for Energy.

Several oil companies have expressed an interest in buying Wytch Farm. British Petroleum, which owns the other half of the field and has an option to match any other bid, is regarded within the Energy Department as favourite to win the auction.

They all say that £450 million is far too high an estimate of the field's estimate. They claim that the field is worth no more than £200 million, though the final proceeds of the sale will probably emerge rather higher than that.

British Gas, whose chairman Sir Denis Rooke has vigorously opposed the sale, says that the Wytch Farm field itself has proven reserves of about 175 million barrels of oil, 10 times the 18 million barrel figure that was applied to the field when it was first discovered nine years ago.

Other proven oil accumulations at Arne, Stoborough and Wareham add another 46 million barrels of oil. The corporation told the committee that there are at least nine other prospects that have been identified as potential oil accumulations in the part of Dorset covered by the Wytch Farm licence.

It is British Gas share in the licence — not the Wytch Farm field itself — which it has been ordered to sell.

Indonesian doubts on tin cartel

By Michael Prest

Malaysian officials arrive in Jakarta, Indonesia, today amid reports that the Indonesians are having doubts about setting up a tin producer's marketing organization. A tin producers' body which would bypass the existing International Tin Agreement is needed to sustain prices at their present high levels.

Datuk Paul Leong, the Malaysian primary industries minister, who is due in Jakarta today, said yesterday that Malaysia still wants the ITA as a forum for cooperation between tin producers and consumers.

But he also said that present tin prices are too low and that many of Malaysia's small gravel pump operators are losing money.

Cash tin closed in London last night at £8,960 a tonne, where the premium over three months metal is £1,063 a tonne. The widening gap between the two prices illustrates the tenseness of the market as those who went short three months ago try to cover their positions.

But Indonesian officials are less enthusiastic about the plan for a producer organization.

MARKET SUMMARY

US rate rise hits shares

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 557.2 down 6.9
FT Gilts 64.83 up 0.04
FT All Share 323.20 down 2.18
Bargain 18,549

A hesitant start to business changed to a mood of downright depression yesterday as Wall Street touched a two — year low after disappointing money supply figures.

Reports that Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, had forecast no upturn in the recession until the United States budget deficit was under control were followed by news that two banks had raised prime rate by ½ per cent to 17 per cent. Gilts took the news well, with longs closing £⅛ off and shorts unchanged in thin trade. Equities, however, failed to conceal their disappointment with nervous sellers leaeding the FT Index 6.9 down at the close at 557.2.

Investors in Reynolds Diversified, the Nevada — based exploration group whose shares were suspended by the Stock Exchange on Friday at 2p, will still be able to deal. Licensed dealer Harvard Securities is continuing to made a price in the stock at 1½p until Reynolds are requoted.

The Council suspended the shares after discovering Reynolds does not have a United States quote as required under rule 163(1)(g). The board of Reynolds is now hurriedly arranging an OTC quote in New York which should be completed within ten days.

Dowty slipped 2p to 116p after luching with brokers Panmure Gordon on Monday. Rumour has it the aerospace side may be performing a little below par. It was still enough to wipe 8p off British Aerospace at 178p.

Scotrocs fell 5p to 100p after Mr Walter Alexander, chairman, sold 18 per cent of his shares to various insitutions at 98p. He now holds around 3 per cent through his own company, Walter Alexander.

Television South West made an uninspired debut at 14p after replacing Westward Television as the West Country's independent station. Trident TV was steady at 87½p after the closure if its Playboy casino in Mayfair on Monday.

W. H. Smith slipped 1p to 168p amid speculation it was about to sell its ailing DIY interest for around £20m with J. Sainsbury being tipped as a strong contender. Smith said there was no truth in the rumours.

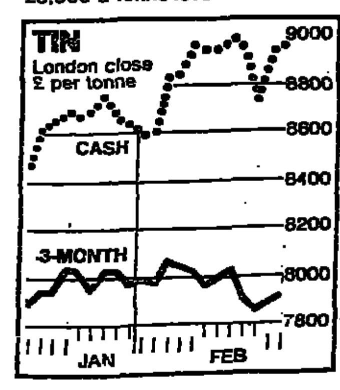
The announcement on the future of Euroflame, expected today, has been postponed while Tring Hall Securities coninues to make efforts to rescue the company launched last year. The shares were suspended at 8p on Monday.

The Irish mining group Tara Exploration leapt 60p to 450p celebrating the end of its seven-month strike..

Michael Clark

COMMODITIES

● The afternoon tin market maintained the higher levels against a background of technical tightness with further cash buying meeting with freer offerings which restrained any advance above the £8,960-a-tonne level.



OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Average 7,693.92 down 0.26
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1,230.62 down 17.73

CURRENCIES

● The dollar ended the day lower on balance after profit-taking in unsettled trading. The pound also weakened.

LONDON CLOSE
STERLING
$ 1.8315 down 65 points
Index 91.6 down 0.1
DM 4,3900
Fr.F 11.1275
Yen 441.00
DOLLAR
Index 113.4 unchanged
DM 2.3935 down 22 points
GOLD
$ 375.50 unchanged

TODAY

Confederation of British Industry council meeting, London.
Average earnings (December) and basic wage rates (January)
Chartered Building Societies Institute debates motion "that building societies have failed".
Company results: Half-yearly - United Real Property Trust; Finals - Birmid Qualcast, Foreign and Colonial Investments, Gillett Bros, John Hadland, London and Lomond Investment.

MONEY MARKETS

● The Bank bought £179m of bills in response to a forecast shortage of £150m. Its dealing rates were unchanged.

Domestic rates:
Base rates 14%
3-month interbank 14¾-14⅝
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 16⅞-16⅝
3 month DM 10⅜-10¼
3 month Fr.F. 15¼-15.

Wall Street wary as bank lifts prime rate

From Bailey Morris, Washington, Feb 16

Wall Street exhibited its strong fear of another climb in United States interests rates today as stocks opened sharply lower and remained low in brisk morning trading.

The move by a small United States bank to raise its prime lending rate — the rate charged to the best business customers — from 16½ to 17 per cent is widely expected to be followed by other leading banks. This follows the big unexpected surge in the US money supply reported on Friday.

There is a firm conviction on Wall Street that the Federal Reserve Board will move quickly to tighten credit in the wake of the new money supply figures, thus creating a new, upward spiral in US interest rates.

The money supply as measured by the Federal Reserve's M-1 figure, reflecting currency in circulation and deposits in checking accounts, grew at the unexpectedly fast rate of 20.7 per cent last month.

This is well above the Federal Reserve's target rate and inconsistent with the goal of a continued tight money policy to control inflation, announced by Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Central's Bank.

In the first 30 minutes of trading, stock prices, as measured by the Dow Jones Average of 30 industrials, plummeted 13.13 points to 820.68 and remained low in morning trading.

Another development "unsettling" Wall Street is the fact that in recent weeks both individuals and institutions have been selling off "winners" — their best money-making stocks — reflecting what analysts fear to be a big, unexpected need for cash.

"People are selling off winners at a time when they really should not be selling them, indicating they may need cash to offset losses elsewhere," one broker said.

He said Wall Street would be anxiously watching the market's close today to see if stocks fall below the low level set in September of 824.

If this occurs it will trigger another selling spree, analysts fear. If this does not occur, and the market closes above Friday's final of 827.77, then analysts say the market will have undergone what is known on the Street as a "key reversal".

☐ An uneasy calm pervaded world currency markets yesterday as traders awaited some firm indication of American interest rate developments. (Frances Williams writes):

But the news that a subsidiary of an Israeli bank had raised its prime rate to 17 per cent had little impact.

The dollar rose to more than DM 2.40 at one stage, but profit-taking left it 22 points down at DM 2.3935 by the close of London trading.

Though high American interest rates are expected to underpin the dollar for some time, other factors, such as recession and a worsening balance of payments, are working to depress the currency.

The markets are also nervous that European central banks may decide to intervene on a substantial scale if the dollar continues its recent advances.

UK hopes on satellite

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

An international consortium, led by Hughes Aircraft and including British Aerospace, is on the brink of winning a £250m contract to build the next generation of worldwide telecommunications satellites. British Aerospace should get up to £50m worth of the business.

The 106-country International Telecommunications Satellite Organisation (Intelsat) has decided to negotiate with Hughes rather than the rival consortium led by Ford Aerospace, for the Intelsat VI series of satellites.

Hughes still has to satisfy Intelsat about the financial and technical details of its proposal before it is formally awarded the contract. That is expected to happen at the end of March.

BAe seems confident that a company with the immense negotiating experience of Hughes will not let the contract slip out of its hands.

The decision is an unexpected blow for Ford, which is building the current series of 15 Intelsat V and VA satellites.

Members of the Hughes consortium have not yet decided on the final share-out of Intelsat VI work. However, BAe's satellite factories at Stevenage and Bristol are expected to manufacture the dishes .

Management of UK economy has been 'terrible'

Friedman attacks Thatcher policies

By Melvyn Westlake

Professor Milton Friedman, the Chicago economist and leading proponent of the monetarist policies adopted on both sides of the Atlantic, now says that the performance of the British economy under Mrs Thatcher's Government has been "terrible". He blames ministers for much of the rise in unemployment.

Speaking in a BBC television interview last night, Professor Friedman also emphatically denied that the policies of President Reagan were responsible for high interest rates in Britain. "...your high interest rates are a product of British policy and not of American policy", he insisted. That would not be true if curencies had a fixed exchange rate against each other.

But in a world where exchange rates are allowed to float, it is possible for any country to have the level of interest rates that it chooses, regardless of what happens in the United States. The interview with President Friedman was recorded in the United States and broadcast in the programme "American Attitudes".

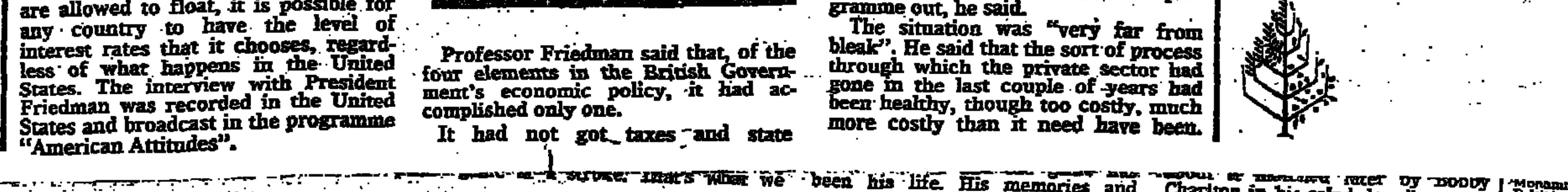
Professor Friedman said that, of the four elements in the British Government's economic policy, it had accomplished only one.

It had not got taxes and state spending down nor significantly reduced the Government involvement in the economy. However, the rate of growth in the money supply had been brought down and, as a result, inflation is lower today, in Britain, than it was shortly after Mrs Thatcher became Prime Minister.

Professor Friedman described the economy here as "desperately sick". "I don't see how you can use any other term for that." But he saw some hope. What the country had now, that it did not have five years ago, was at least one coherent group with a well-designed, well-articulated programme for getting Britain out of its mess.

Although not specifying who they were, Professor Friedman appeared to mean the hawks within the Government. However, so far, it had not proved possible to carry this programme out, he said.

The situation was "very far from bleak". He said that the sort of process through which the private sector had gone in the last couple of years had been healthy, though too costly, much more costly than it need have been.



BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

Beware insurance risks and a Budget brake on cash

In the long term, just buy and bide

The composite insurance sector is very near its all-time low against the all-share index. Why nevertheless (Drew Johnston writes) *are most of the composite* insurers showing share price increases?

The reason is that some investors feel the nadir has been reached, but the share price recoveries are prompted by a variety of reasons.

Rumours of a fresh bid for Eagle Star, from Allianz Versicherungs and the promise of a 43 per cent increase in the dividend have pushed its price up. Increased dividends are expected at General Accident and Sun Alliance.

Other investors, looking for a long-term improvement, are prepared to buy and bide their time until the expected profits recovery gets under way in 1983-84. Inproved performance is expected at Commercial Union and Royal Insurance when the United States insurance market becomes firmed.

The question is whether the sector has really reached its lowest point.

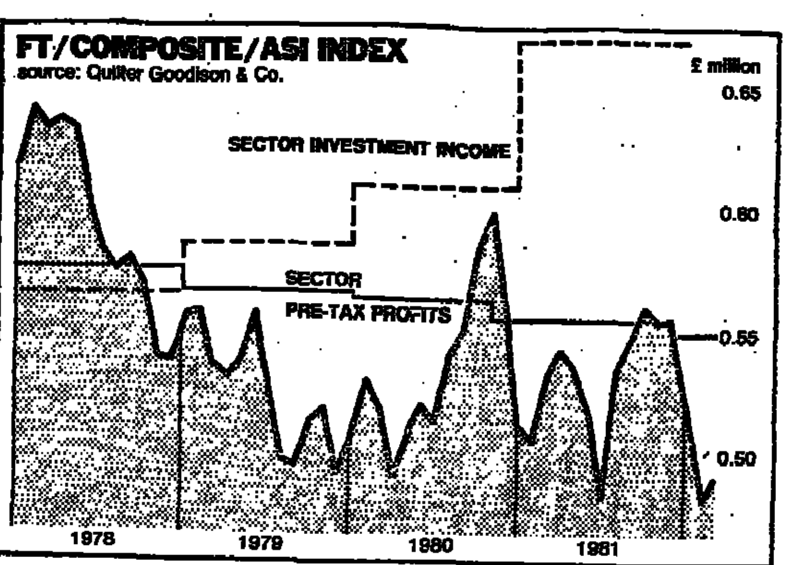
Floods, burst pipes and motor demage caused by the severe winter all played a part in depressing the market's short-term profit expectation. But the sector's problems are more deep-rooted. Continuing high interest rates in the United States have persuaded the market that no real recovery in profits will take place for a couple of years. In both the United Kingdom and the United States, the insurance market is highly competitive, and few expect premium rates to be raised until American interest rates fall significantly.

The outlook for 1982 is poor. Most analysts expect the sector to under-perform the market. Competition in several assurance accounts, *including motor,* fire and general liability, will act as a brake on increased profits.

Commercial Union, which has a highly vulnerable United States operation, reports its 1981 figures next week. Pretax profit is forecast to be about £75m compared with £103m last year.

Dividend yield is forecast at 12 per cent, with a price earnings *ratio of 10.5 or so.*

General Accident's record for good management and long term growth is also threatened in the next couple of years. The problem is low growth in premium income and a squeeze on income from underwriting in the United States *and the United Kingdom.*



Premium growth has also fallen off at Phoenix Assurance and this is expected to have an impact on this year's performance. It also suffers from high exposure to motor household contents policy in the aftermath of the winter's claims.

Recovery in the Canadian and Australian markets is expected to help royal Insurance profits, but the market view holds that the United Kingdom performance has been unexciting.

Strongest figures in the sector over the next 18 months are expected to come from Guardian Royal Exchange. Premium income growth should be higher than the rest of the sector at about 9 per cent.

Eagle Star is forecast to make increased profits in both 1981 and 1982, despite a slowdown in premium income growth. Much of its business is conducted long-term, which will provide a revenue buffer. Cash flow is expected to fall unless premium income growth revives.

A slowdown is also expected at Sun Alliance, which also faces big payments of claims arising from the adverse weather.

The ideas of March

It could be "Sell in March and go away" this spring, to parody the stock market adage. London has seen a good start to the year's trading, but many of the big investors feel the firm tone could deteriorate with the Budget on March 9 (Sally White writes).

Several thousand million pounds were waiting to go into gilts and equities in January once the miners' ballot came out against a strike. The question being asked now by the big institutional brokers is how much money there will be from March on to boost the market into further rises.

Anecdotal evidence would seem to indicate that while there is still some institutional liquidity around, much of the institutions' cash flow could be held for rights issues, government sales such as BNOC and for gilt sales.

Once all the backlog of company *tax has flowed in,* then the Government is more likely to be back to the gilt market for funds. Those heavy tax payments helped to give sterling an upward push as companies repatriated money intended for the Inland Revenue.

Also helping the London markets has been the fall in interest rates. At present Europe is able to break the long-standing tie with United States interest rates. However, if the upward pressure on American interest rates continues at the present pace, Britain *may be forced to follow suit or at* least be prevented from making further cuts.

The Budget itself could turn out to be a disappointment. There is often an about-turn in market sentiment once the sums have been done,. Industrial activity *could already be faltering.*

All these questions are enough to cause the market to be cautious about prospects from the Budget onwards.

The cruel North Sea

Oil production companies will go on falling in price until Aramco and others stop *unloading* oil on the spot market *(Sally White writes).* That is a view of the sector that is giving little comfort to holders of such as Tricentrol, Lasmo, and Charterhall in the North Sea. Unless the oil cartel organized by Opec is even more efficient than usual, the oil surplus could be around until next winter.

Others suffering because they have North Sea production are Cluff, Clyde, Daily Mail and General Trust, International Thomson and Charterhouse.

Shell, so the story goes, could benefit from lower crude revenue, giving it better margins on products where it can control the price on which it pays only corporation tax rather than the *punitive petroleum revenue.*

A rumour helping the United States oil companies is that the government there could bring in an import tax if Opec producers dump oil in the United States. This would mean at prices in the low thirty dollars a barrel to the *upper twenties.*

INTERNATIONAL

W GERMANY

West German companies will invest less this year than in 1981 despite the offer of investment incentives under the government's job creation programme.

Herr Franz Schoser, executive secretary of the industrial and trade association (DIHT), told a press conference that a survey of 14,000 firms showed they were cutting investment because of lower profits and poor prospects for future earnings.

The government is offering a 10 per cent investment grant to companies which invest this year in new plant *or buildings, provided they* spend more than their average investment in the past three years.

UNITED STATES

Firestone is to sell its Nashville, Tennessee, heavy-duty radial truck tyre plant to Bridgestone of Japan for $52m (£28m).

● General Motors is to close two California car assembly plants indefinitely and to scrap the second shift at its light-duty utility truck plant in Pontiac, Michigan.

ITALY

Fiat and the American company Tecumseh Products are to produce and sell in Europe small engines for agricultural and other uses, the Italian car makers announced. The Turin venture is called Technamotor, and it will make use of facilities at Aspera, a Fiat small motors subsidiary.

FRANCE

The January jobless total in France was a seasonally adjusted 1,922,500, up 1.1 per cent on December. The new level represents about 8.3 per *cent of the work force* and is over 20 per cent higher than in January last year.

JAPAN

Japan says it will retaliate against the EEC if Brussels lodge's a *formal complaint* against Tokyo over trade.

CAPITAL MARKETS

The EEC is raising DM200m through a 12-year Eurobond, lead managed by Deutsche Bank.

The issue carries a 9¾ per cent coupon with pricing at 99 per cent to yield 9.91 per cent.

It is the fourth issue in the new mark Eurobond calendar set 10 days ago totalling DM2,350m for two months until mid April. First price indications this morning were less 1¼, less ¾.

Dart & Kraft Finance intends to make a public offer in Kuwait next month of $25m of seven-year sinking fund bonds.

The bonds will have an interest rate of between 11.75 per cent and 12 per cent. The issue will be priced on February 26.

Proceeds will be used to reduce short-term debt and for other corporate purposes. The issue is being underwritten by a group led by International Investment, a private investment-banking concern. The offer is fully guaranteed by Dart & Kraft.

A five-year, DM100m private placement for the Oesterreichische Kontrolbank has been launched at 99.5 per cent with a 9.87 per cent coupon bringing a yield of 10.125 per cent.

The manager of the bonds is the Bayerische Hypotheken und Wechselbank (Hypobank). The bonds were marked down ½ point from their expected pricing in the Grey market.

DALGETY

Profits up after fight for Spillers

Mr David Donne, chairman of Dalgety, *yesterday* delivered what the stock market had recently come to expect—record pretax profits of £19.6m for the six months to last December, an increase of £3.4m on 1980's half year results. But the dividend is the same again, 15.7p gross.

Two years ago Dalgety won a bitterly fought battle for control of Spillers, and 12 months ago the City still had reservations about Dalgety's ability to turn the company round. But yesterday Mr Donne finally laid these fears to rest.

The group is now thoroughly integrated, and profits on four out of five fronts have moved ahead.

The exception is food, where *an unprecedented* slump in sales of meat, compounded by Irish farmers dumping surpluses on the British market, has brought the worst trading conditions many in the business can remember.

"The problem is that the British housewife can no longer afford to buy meat," said Mr John Hart, finance director.

But some of the problem areas of 12 months ago now *look conspicuously better.* Malting, which was sorely hit by the drop in beer sales and big cuts in whisky stocks, has been put back on its feet by a major drive into export markets.

These now account for roughly half of total sales, as against just a quarter last year. And the prospects look good too, given that the British brewing and distilling industry is expected to recover, if not this year, then certainly next.

Taking the group as a *whole, profits in the* agricultural service and supply business, in which animal feeds is a major component, rose from £7.9m to £10m. In market share terms the Dalgety Spillers combine still has only half the 22 per cent market share its rival Lever has, but Mr Donne says the difference now is that the business is profitable. In the past, market share had been bought at the expense of profits.

Pet foods is profitable, too, though the group faces tough competition from Mars, which is combating the recession by advertising heavily to maintain sales at the expense of the competition. Profits from food *processing and distribution* rose from £8m to £11m.

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That leaves the part for which Spillers, at least, is perhaps best known milling, flour and cereal processing. Here growth was more modest, *rising by £1.5 million* to £11.7 million at the present level.

Mr Donne remains optomistic for the division however. The return on capital is good, it justifies further investment, and though the growth rates will not be exciting, "Every company needs some good solid businesses," he said.

The question now is where the group goes from here, *and the answer, says Mr* Donne, is to find a suitable acquisition in the United States, one "somewhere between the farm gate ans the supermarket", with distribution an obvious candidate. The group has been quietly looking for some months now, and has no obvious targets in mind.

But a strong United States presence is the obvious gap in the company's spread of interests, and filling it is the key to Mr Donne's next five years.

LATEST RESULTS

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Bk Leumi (UK) (F)	—(—)	0.47b(0.51b)	—(—)	7(7)	20/4	10(10)
Elbief(I)	1.3(1.32)	0.13(0.1)	—(—)	0.3(0.3)	15/4	—(1.3)
Dalgety(I)	626(592)	10(7.9)	16(10.9)	11(11)	1/7	—(22.0)
Howard Mach.(F)	44.1(43.3)	0.078(5.2c)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Meldrum Inv.(F)	—(—)	0.7a(0.76a)	3.53(3.78)	2.2(2)	8/4	3.4(3.2)
Parkfd. Fd.(I)	2.39(2.25)	0.014(0.11)	0.36(1.93)	0.3(0.3)	31/3	0.3(0.8)
Pentland Inv.(F)	—(—)	1.13a(1.15a)	6.28(6.43)	4.8(—)	8/4	6.3(6.3)
Temple Bar(F)	—(—)	3.38(3.42)	7.92(7.95)	5.4(5.2	31/3	7:9(7.7)
Joseph Webb(I)	2.61(2.43)	0.23(0.27)	0.76(0.81)	0.1(0.1)	14/4	—(0.56)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. a Net income. b Net profits. c Loss.

HOWARD MACHINERY

Back in the black

Howard Machinery, the *Berkshire based farm equipment group,* was back in the black in the year to October with pre-tax profits of £78,000 against the previous year's loss of £5.2m. Turnover rose from £43.3m to £44.1m, but as in the previous year, the directors are not recommending any dividend.

The group has had considerable success with the Paraplow, a revolutionary farm implement to loosen soil which has won a number of awards. Howard had planned to manufacture 70 in the past year but eventually sold 250; with a number of further orders.

Two other successful products launched this year have been a tractor—drawn grain harvester produced by the group's French subsidiary and a new grape press from its German offshoot.

There has been speculation that the American group , Diamond Industries, would add to its 17 per cent stake in Howard. But an option which Diamond had held over a further 7 per cent of the shares has now expired.

JOSEPH WEBB

Midlands gloom

Midlands based Joseph Webb, the holidays and property group, report a slump in profits to £157,700 pre tax in the half year to September against £159,200, on turnover up from £2.43m to £2.61m. Its hoilidays and leisure division declined from £361,300 to £327,000, but property income rose from £68,900 to £70,500 with the prospect of improvement.

But with no *land* sales during the period or likely during the second half, the directors expect pre-tax profits in respect of the year ending March 31 to be down *on last year's £561,000.*

PARKFIELD

Major setback

The continuing effect of the recession on metal-based industrial companies has caused a significant setback at Parkfield Foundries of Stockton-on-Tees, for the half year to October.

Profits fell from £111,000 to £14,750, and earnings per share dropped to 0.36p against 1.93p.

Sales moved ahead slightly to £2.39m against £2.25m, but redundancy costs of £22,000 led to an attributable loss of £11,300.

Despite this, £10,500 is being paid in dividends.

WALL STREET

Stocks rallied in the last two hours of trading, but still finished *lower on the day because of* continuing concern over the outlook on interest rates.

After dropping nearly 13 points in the morning, the Dow-Jones industrial average ended 2.47 down at 831.34. Declines led advances by two to one as volume widened to 49 million shares from 37.7 million on Friday, the Lincoln's Birthday holiday.

Analysts attributed the rally to short-covering, and noted that *selling abated after the market* sold off sharply in the first hour.

Mr Newton Zinder, of E. F. Hutton, said there was no follow-through selling after the initial decline.

	Feb 16	Feb 12
Allied Chem	39¾	40
Allied Stores	25¾	26
Allis Chalmers	13¼	13
Alcoa	23	23½
Amax Inc	31¾	32¾
Amerada Hess	19⅞	19¾
Am Airlines	17⅞	17⅞
Am Brands	38¾	38¾
Am Broadcast	31½	32½
Am Can	29¾	29¾
Am Cyanamid	26¾	26¾
Am Elec Power	16⅞	16¾
Am Home	34¾	34¼
Am Motors	2⅞	2⅞
Am Nat Res	34	34¾
Am Standard	24½	25¾
Am Telephone	58	58
AMF Inc	21¼	21¼
Armco Steel	22	23¼
Asarco	21¾	22¼
Ashland Oil	26¾	27¾
Atlntic Richfield	38⅞	39
Avco	15¾	15¾
Avon Products	28¼	28¾
Bankers Tst NY	33¼	33½
Bank of America	18½	18⅞
Bank of NY	42¾	41¾
Beatrice Foods	17¾	17¾
Bendix	51¼	51
Bethlehem Steel	20½	20¾
Boeing	18¾	18⅞
Boise Cascade	28¾	29¾
Borden	30¾	30¾
Borg Warner	25	25¾
Bristol Myers	53⅞	52⅞
BP	21	21¼
Burlington Ind	19¾	20
Burlington Nthn	48¾	47⅞
Burroughs	33½	33⅞
Campbell Soup	30¾	31
Canadian Pacific	27¾	28¼
Caterpillar	49¾	49¾
Celanese	56	54½
Central Soya	11¼	11¾
Chase Manhat	57¾	57½
Chem Bank NY	52¼	53¼
Chrysler	4½	4⅞
Citicorp	24½	25
Cities Service	30	30¼
Clark Equip	24¼	24½
Coca Cola	31⅞	32¼
Colgate	17⅞	17⅞
CBS	43½	44
Columbia Gas	29¾	29⅞
Combustion Eng	31⅞	31¼
Comwlth Edison	20¼	20¼
Cons Edison	32¾	32¾
Cons Foods	32¾	32½
Cons Power	16½	16⅞
Continental Grp	28	28¾
Control Data	33	32¾
Corning Glass	44¼	45
CPC Intnl	37½	37
Crane	28¾	29¼
Crocker Int	28¾	28⅞
Crown Zeller	24¾	25
Dart & Kraft	49¼	49¼
Deere	33½	34
Delta Air	27	27
Detroit Edison	11½	11½
Disney	48⅞	49
Dow Chemical	21	21¼
Dresser Ind	25¾	24¾
Duke Power	21¼	21⅜
Du Pont	36⅞	36⅞
Eastern Air	5¾	5
Eastman Kodak	69¾	69½
Eaton Corp	29	29
El Paso Nat Gas	26¾	27¼
Equitable Life	9¾	9¼
Esmark	45	44⅞
Evans P. D.	14¼	14½
Exxon Corp	29¾	29¾
Fed Dept Stores	37½	37¾
Firestone	10¼	10⅜
Fst Chicago	18¾	18¾
Fst Intrst Bncp	30¾	31
Fst Nat Boston	40¾	41¾
Fst Penn Corp	2⅞	2⅞
Ford	18¾	18
GAF Corp	9½	9½
Gen Dynamics	23¾	24
Gen Electric	60¾	60
Gen Foods	30¾	30¾
Gen Mills	36¾	35¾
Gen Motors	35¾	36¾
Gen Pub Util NY	4¾	4⅞
Gen Tel Elec	30¼	29½
Gen Tire	19¾	19¾
Genesco	5¾	5⅞
Georgia Pacific	17⅞	17⅞
Getty Oil	52	53¼
Gillette	32½	33
Goodrich	20⅞	20⅞
Goodyear	19	19½
Gould Inc	22¾	22⅞
Grace	41½	41
Gt Atltc & Pacific	4⅞	5
Greyhound	14⅞	15
Grumman Corp	24¾	24¾
Gulf Oil	30⅞	31
Gulf & West	16¼	16¼
Heinz H. J.	28	27¾
Hercules	19¾	19¾
Honeywell	72¾	71¾
IC Inds	31⅞	31¾
Ingersoll	53	53¾
Inland Steel	20¾	20½
IBM	62¾	61⅞
Int Harvester	7½	7½
INCO	13½	13⅞
Int Paper	34¾	34¾
Int Tel Tel	26⅞	27
Irving Bank	44¾	44¾
Jewel Co	33¾	33½
Jim Walter	18⅞	18⅞
Johnson & John	38¾	37¾
Kaiser Alumin	14⅞	14⅞
Kerr McGee	32¾	33¾
Kimberly Clark	60¼	60⅞
K Mart	16	16¾
Kroger	26½	26½
L.T.V. Corp	16⅞	16⅞
Litton	51½	51½
Lockheed	51⅞	51¼
Lucky Stores	12⅞	12⅞
Manuf Hanover	31¾	31⅞
Manville Cp	15½	18
Mapco	32¾	33⅞
Marathon Oil	74	73⅞
Marine Midland	24½	24⅞
Martin Marietta	30¾	29⅞
McDonnell	30¾	30
Mead	20½	20¾
Merck	84¾	83¾
Minnesota Mng	55½	55
Mobil Oil	22¾	22⅞
Monsanto	67⅞	69¾
Morgan J. P.	53⅞	53¾
Motorola	59⅞	53⅞
NCR Corp	44½	43⅞
NL Industries	31⅞	30¾
Nabisco	32⅞	32¾
Nat Distillers	21⅞	22¼
Nat Med Ent	16⅞	15⅞
Nat Steel	23¾	23¾
Norfolk West	48¾	50¼
NW Bancorp	22⅞	22¾
Norton Simon	19½	19¾
Occidental Pet	21⅞	21⅞
Ogden	25	25¾
Olin Corp	20¾	20
Owens-Illinois	28	29⅛
Pacific Gas Elec	21¼	21¼
Pan Am	2⅞	2⅞
Penney J. C.	29¾	29¾
Pennzoil	45⅞	44¼
Pepsico	34⅞	35¾
Pfizer	56⅞	55⅞
Phelps Dodge	27⅞	29
Philip Morris	46⅞	46⅞
Phillips Petrol	36½	36⅞
Polaroid	19⅞	19⅞
PPG Ind	31¼	31⅞
Procter Gamble	83½	82⅞
Pub Ser El & Gas	19¾	19¾
Raytheon	34¾	35¾
RCA Corp	20	20¾
Republic Steel	23¾	23¾
Reynolds Ind	44½	45
Reynolds Metal	19¾	19¾
Rockwell Int	30¾	31⅞
Royal Dutch	30¾	31⅞
Safeways	27	27¾
St Regis Paper	27½	27
Santa Fe Ind	16¾	16½
SCM	21¾	21⅞
Schlumberger	49¾	48
Scott Paper	16¾	17⅞
Seagram	52⅞	53½
Sears Roebuck	15⅞	16⅞
Shell Oil	35¾	36⅞
Shell Trans	25¾	25¾
Signal Co	23½	23¾
Singer	14½	14¾
Sony	14⅞	14⅞
Sth Cal Edison	28⅞	28⅞
Southern Pacific	34½	34
Southern Rly	89⅞	90¾
Sperry Corp	30⅞	30½
Std Oil Califnia	31¼	31⅞
Std Oil Indiana	32¾	40
Std Oil Ohio	32¾	33⅞
Sterling Drug	23¾	23⅞
Stevens J. P.	16¾	15⅞
Sun Comp	37⅞	37⅞
Teledyne	127½	125¾
Tenneco	28¾	28⅞
Texaco	30¾	30½
Texas East Corp	43⅞	44
Texas Inst	75⅞	73⅞
Texas Utilities	19⅞	20¼
Textron	22½	22⅞
TWA	18	17⅞
Travelers Corp	46⅞	46⅞
TRW Inc	47⅞	48⅞
UAL Inc	16¾	16¾
Union Carbide	43⅞	44¼
Union Oil Calif	30⅞	31
Un Pacific Corp	38⅞	39½
Uniroyal	6¾	6⅞
United Brands	10	10
US Industries	8¾	8½
US Steel	23½	23¾
Utd Technol	33¾	35¾
Wachovia	23¾	24⅞
Warner Lambert	23¾	22¾
Wells Fargo	25¾	25¾
Westnghse Elec	23¾	24
Weyerhauser	29¾	29¾
Whirlpool	24	24½
Woolworth	16½	16¾
Xerox Corp	38	38¾
Zenith	13½	13⅞

Canadian Prices

	Feb 16	Feb 15
Abitibi	19¾	19¾
Alcan Alumin	23¾	22⅞
Algoma Steel	37¼	36½
Bell Telephone	17½	17⅞
Cominco	49½	48
Cons Bathurst	15¾	15¾
Gulf Oil	13	13
Hawker/Sid Can	11¾	11¾
Hudson Bay Min	13¾	17⅞
Hudson Bay Oil	48¼	48⅞
Imasco	41½	41½
Imperial Oil	21⅞	21½
Int Pipe	14	13¾
Mass.-Fergsn	2⅞	2⅞
Royal Trust	14⅞	14⅞
Seagram	64¾	63¾
Steel Co	26¾	26
Thomson N 'A'	23¾	23¾
Walker Hiram	14⅞	14½
WCT	11¾	12

• Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES

Alcan Aluminium of Canada, 70 per cent owned unit of Alcan Australia, earned *net profit* of A$7.34m (£4.242m) in 1981 against A$18.73m in 1980. Alcan Australia chairman John Clarkson said the 61 per cent drop was the first reversal in five years. Alcan Australia declared a final dividend of five cents (11 cents previously) making the annual dividend 12 cents (18).

Australian aluminium maker Comalco reported 62 per cent drop in 1981 earnings, reflecting falling world demand for the metal and rising operating costs. Net profit for the year was A$28.43m (£16.43m) against A$75.19m in 1980.

Toshiba Corporation of Japan said that sales in the third-quarter (October-December) of 1981 rose *13.2 per cent to Y405,220m* (£904.72m) from Y358,720m a year earlier. Exports rose 90 per cent to Y150,300m.

Impala Platinum holdings of South Africa declared an interim dividend of 25 cents (35 cents) and profit after tax and lease consideration of R51,240,000 *(£25,492,537) against* R63,561,000.

BIDS AND DEALS

Foster Brothers *Clothing* has acquired the outstanding 25 per cent minority interest in Anglo American Retail Corporation, its United States subsidiary, which in turn has a 32 per cent holding in Natco Industries, a United States public company and an option to acquire a further 21 per cent in Natco until October 1983.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	14%
Barclays	14%
BCCI	14%
Consolidated Crds	14%
C. Hoare & Co	*14%
Lloyds Bank	14%
Midland Bank	14%
Nat Westminster	14%
TSB	14%
Williams & Glyn's	14%

★ 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000 11¾%. £10,000 up to £50,000 12¼%. £50,000 and over 12¾%.

COMMODITIES

COPPER: Higher grade was steadier at the close.— Afternoon — Higher grade cash, £8666-66.50; three months £893-93.50. Sales 8,300 tonnes. Cash standard *cathodes,* £862-64.00 three months, £889-90.00; Sales: nil tonnes. Morning.— Higher grade cash, £864-864.50; three months, £891.50-£892.50. Settlement, £864.50. Sales: 13,650 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £862.50-863; three months, £888-889. Settlement, £863.00. Sales: 400 tonnes.

TIN: Standard (cash) was steady; three months, barely steady, after firm.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, *£8950-70 a tonne; three months* £7905-10. Sales, 1,040 tonnes. High grade, cash £8950-70; three months £7905-20. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning —Standard cash £8955-8960; three months £7900-7910. Settlement, £8960. Sales, 700 tonnes. High grade, cash £8955-8960; three months, £7940-7950. Settlement, £8960. Sales, 15 tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works, $M33.60 a picul.

LEAD was firm.—Afternoon. Cash, £333.50-34.00 per tonne; three months £344-44.50. Sales, 1,300 tonnes. Morning.—Cash £330-331; three months £341.50-342. Settlement £331.00. Sales, 5,950 tonnes.

ZINC was firm.—Afternoon.—Cash £446.50-47.50 per tonne; three months £453-54.00. Sales, 3,850 tonnes. Morning.—Cash £442-442.25; three months £449-449.50. Settlement, £442.25. Sales, 6,600 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £199.50 ($365.50) a troy ounce.

SILVER was steady.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 467.45p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 856.70); three months, 483.15p (889.90c); six months, 498.45p (922.30c); one year, 531.75p (991.30c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 466-68p; three months, 482-83.0p. Sales, 91 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 468-468.5p; three months, *483.5-483.8p. Settlement,* 468.5p. Sales, 39 lots.

ALUMINIUM was steady. — Afternoon. — Cash, £587-88.00 per tonne; three months £607-7.50. Sales, 2,500 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £585-587.00; three months £605-606. Settlement, £587.00. Sales, 7,200 tonnes.

NICKEL was steady. — Afternoon. — Cash £3205-15 per tonne; three months £3225-30. Sales, 810 tonnes. *Morning. — Cash £3195-3205; three* months £3218-3220. Settlement, £3205. Sales, 354 tonnes.

RUBBER (pence per kilo): — Mch 46.00-46.10. Apr 47.20-47.30; Apr/Jne 48.10-48.30; Jly/Sep 51.70-51.80. Oct/Dec 55.10-55.20; Jan/Mch 58.30-58.40. Apr/Jne 61.30-61.40. Jly/Sep 64.30-64.40; Oct/Dec 67.30-67.40. Sales: 22 at five tonnes and 276 at 15 tonnes.

COFFEE. — **ROBUSTAS** (£ per tonne): Mch 1388-1390; May 1332-1333; Jly 1276-1277; Sep 1247-1248; *Nov 1220-1222; Jan 1205-1215; Mch* 1195-1220. Sales: 6,622 lots, including 189 options.

COCOA (£ per metric ton). — Mch 1203-1204; May 1166-1167; Jly 1177-1179; Sep 1185-1186; Dec 1203-1204; Mch 1218-1220; May 1225-1227. Sales: 1,755 lots.

SUGAR. — The London daily price of "raws" was £3 higher at £173; the "whites" price was £1 higher at £187. Futures (£ per tonne): Mch 180.10-*180.35; May 181.30-181.40;* Aug 184.10-181.35; Oct 186.85-187.00; Jan 188.00-188.50; Mch 181.15-181.30; May 193.00-193.50. Sales: 4,454 lots. ISA prices unavailable because of United States holiday on February 15.

SOYABEAN MEAL (£ per tonne): Feb 125.00-140.00; Apl 131.50-131.50; June 129.20-129.30; Aug 129.50-129.80; Oct 130.00-131.00; Dec 131.00-133.00; Feb 132.50-135.00. Sales: 55 lots.

NZ CROSSBREDS No 2 contract (cents per kilo), Mar 382-390; May 390-395; Aug 407-409; Oct 407-411; Dec 408-411, Jan 412-415; Mar 420-425; May, 429-432, Aug 439-444. Sales: 87 lots.

GRAIN. (The Baltic). — **WHEAT.** — Canadian western red spring No 1 13½ per cent unquoted. US dark northern spring, No 1 14 per cent Feb. *£131.00, March,* £123.00 trans-shipment east coast sellers: US hard winter 13½ per cent March, £116.50 trans-shipment east coast quoted. EEC. unquoted.

MAIZE: English feed fob: March £114.00; paid eas coast; March, £114.50, sellers April, £117; April-/May, £118.50 sellers east coast: US-French. March, £133.50 seller trans-shipment east coast. S Africa white unquoted. S Africa yellow unquoted.

BARLEY: English feed fob: March, £112.60; April/May, £114.50. *East* Coast sellers. All cif UK unless stated.

INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM EXCHANGE ($US per tonne). — Feb. 283.00-85.25; March, 273.00-74.00; April, 269.25-69.50; May, 266.50-67.00, June, 268.00-69.00; July, 268.00-70.00; Aug. 270.00-85.00; Sept. 275.00-82.00; Oct, 278.00-80.00. Sales 1,388 lots of 100 tonnes each.

POTATOES (Gafta). — April, £132.00; Nov, £65.60; Feb, £77.00. Sales 245 lots of 40 tonnes each.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P/E Actual	P/E Fully Taxed
124	100	ABI Hldgs 10% CULS	124	—	10.0	8.1	—	—
75	62	Airsprung Group	70	—	4.7	6.7	11.1	15.4
51	33	Armitage & Rhodes	44	—	4.3	9.8	3.7	8.3
205	187	Bardon Hill	204	—	9.7	4.8	9.9	12.1
104	76	Deborah Services	76	-1	6.0	7.9	3.8	7.1
130	97	Frank Horsell	130	—	6.4	4.9	11.7	24.1
83	39	Frederick Parker	83	+2	6.4	7.7	4.2	8.1
78	46	George Blair	51	—	—	—	—	—
102	93	IPC	97	+1	7.3	7.5	7.0	10.5
106	100	Isis Conv Pref	106	+1	15.7	14.8	—	—
113	94	Jackson Group	94	+1	7.0	7.4	3.0	6.7
130	108	James Burrough	112	—	8.7	7.8	8.2	10.3
334	250	Robert Jenkins	252	-2	31.3	12.4	3.5	8.9
59	51	Scruttons "A"	57	+1	5.3	9.3	8.8	8.1
222	163	Torday & Carlisle	163	-1	10.7	6.6	5.2	9.7
15	10	Twinlock Ord	13½	—	—	—	—	—
80	66	Twinlock 15% ULS	77	—	15.0	19.5	—	—
44	26	Unilock Holdings	26	-1	3.0	11.5	4.6	7.9
103	75	Walter Alexander	73xd	—	8.4	8.8	4.8	8.5
263	212	W. S. Yeates	226	+2	13.1	5.8	4.3	8.7

Prices now available on Prestel page 48146

PEOPLE

Renold – Sir Campbell tries again

Renold, the gear and chain people of Wythenshawe, has like others fallen into loss-making, streamlining and redundancies. It has also chosen this moment to change pilots, and it has daringly chosen one who has already been shot down.

Out as (non-executive) chairman in July will go long serving Mr Leslie Tolley at the fairly ripe age of 69, and in will come Sir Campbell Adamson, 10 years his junior, and still living down caustic remarks he made about the Heath Government and the old Industrial Relations Act during the miners' strike of 1974.

Poor Sir Campbell was credited, almost certainly unfairly with helping the the Tories lose the general election which led to Heath departing from both the premiership and Tory leadership.

Intermittently he has learnt discretion. Back in 1969 he said when becoming director-general of the CBI: "I have a bee in my bonnet about people who make important statements about their new jobs". One of Sir Campbell's hobbies is arguing. This may cause trepidation among some Renold old hands whose board consists of seven non-executive directors to only four in the business.



Sir Campbell Adamson

A blow in the bread basket

As if Tim Howden, managing director of RHM's British Bakeries, had not enough to worry about thousands of those big plastic baskets used to deliver loaves have gone missing.

So many baskets have disappeared in South Wales since the year began that British Bakeries and Allied Bakeries, the other giant in the trade, have been putting joint half-page ads in Welsh newspapers appealing for their return. About 25,000 have vanished, and they each cost £1.

They are thought to make good dog kennels, rabbit hutches and toboggans.

Bits of British Rail are learning to live commercially. On one of the Sealink cross-channel ferries last weekend someone offered to clean cars for £1—not a service I could find anywhere in the brochure. European Ferries' plan to take over Sealink was blocked by the monopolies people but there is no doubt the Government wants to see Sealink in private hands. Perhaps the lone car washer should think of widening his horizon to a management buy-out à la National Freight.

Will he no' come back?

Young Mr David Rowland, still only 36, has lost none of his flair for attracting controversy even though he keeps out of the public eye. Why oh why, cry shareholders in Williams Hudson, the transport and mining group, are our shares still suspended?

They had their quote withdrawn nearly a year ago. The word is that a planned takeover by Mr Rowlands' private Panamanian group will not now proceed. Mr Rowland made his first million when he was 23 having become big in property.

Yesterday Mr Simon Knotty, of Greene & Co, Hudson's broker said: "Mr Rowland has not been in touch with us for two years. But we will not resign as company brokers because the group is entitled to a conduit to the stock exchange which it may one day need. However we feel bdly treated."

Peter Wainwright

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Dr J. Birks has succeeded Mr M. H. W. Wells as chairman of Charterhouse Petroleum.

Mr Richard Rees, financial controller of Hepworth (Retail) has been appointed financial director.

Mr M. Shanks is appointed chairman designate of Geo. ...sett Holdings and will succeed Mr B. Mills as chairman on retirement on March 31. Mr ...mons is appointed vice-... following Mr D. ... retirement.

Tumbling oil prices: Why it is Opec's turn to get nervous

Times have changed when it is the oil ministers of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries — and not Western governments or oil companies — who start talking about "the present crisis in the international petroleum market". Yet these were the exact words used yesterday by Opec's president Mana al-Oteiba, oil minister of the normally moderate United Arab Emirates: and it is not hard to see why it is the oil producers' turn to start worrying about what is happening to world prices.

The truth is that Opec is on the run. In the face of an extremely sharp and sustained drop in demand, oil prices are tumbling all over the world. Contract prices for crude oil in non-Opec producers such as the United States, Britain and Norway have all been cut in the last few weeks as a result of the market pressures.

On Opec's side, Iran has already broken ranks by cutting its official prices twice in a week and three times so far this year. Other Opec members such as Algeria and Nigeria are offering hidden discounts, barter deals or improved credit terms in a desperate effort to sell their oil and avoid breaching the official price structure — based on a $34 a barrel benchmark — which Opec so precariously achieved last autumn.

The "crisis" for Opec is that its ability to defend prices — as opposed to its ability to force them up when there is a world shortage — is now being put to the test. All the evidence from the "spot" market where marginal cargoes of oil are traded, and from the changing investment behaviour of the major oil companies is that prices have to fall further — unless the oil producers can agree among themselves to curtail their output to offset the continuing world oil glut.

This strikes at the very heart of Opec's problems. Despite popular misconceptions in the West, the 13 members of Opec have very different needs and resources, and rarely find it easy to co-ordinate their divergent aims. Countries with large populations and revenue requirements but relatively limited oil reserves, such as Nigeria and Algeria, have a far greater need to maximize short-term revenues than little-populated producers with much larger reserves of oil such as Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

It is this former group of countries, whose exports and revenues have slumped as oil companies and other buyers have walked away from their overpriced crude, especially since many of them have ambitious development plans to finance, can least afford to let prices drift.

They are putting increasing pressure on Saudi Arabia, the world's largest single oil exporter, and producer of 40 per cent of Opec's total current 20 million barrel a day output, to reduce its production from the present level of around eight million barrels a day.

The financial pressure on the less well-endowed Opec members is greater than many people realize. The Bank for International Settlements, for example, reported earlier this week that the oil exporters, as a group, are now net borrowers of funds from the Western banking sytem — for the first time since the end of 1978. The burden is not evenly spread. Calculations by *Petroleum Intelligence Weekly*, a leading oil industry journal, show that only four Opec members — Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, United Arab Emirates and Qatar — are producing enough oil in the present depressed market to balance their domestic budgets. (President Reagan is not alone in his problems.)

Worst hit of the remaining nine countries are Iran and Iraq, which are earning less than half what they need at a time when they are still engaged in a protracted and expensive war. Industry calculations are that the nine Opec producers with financial shortfalls would have to raise output by five million barrels a day to make up the gap. That assumes prices remain stable. But then, of course, if they were to churn out more oil, prices would inevitably fall.

The problem is that only concerted action by all Opec countries in adjusting production levels can save the price structure: but Saudi Arabia, the key to the whole process, has always insisted that the amount of oil it produces is a sovereign matter for itself — and not Opec — to decide. A lot depends therefore on how Saudi Arabia decides to act.

The intentions of the Saudis and Shaikh Yamani their oil minister are always hard to read. But only last week Yamani said he did not see that there was any justification for holding an emergency Opec meeting to discuss the crisis. Having vainly attempted to moderate the more hawkish Opec members' demands for ever higher oil prices during the 1979-80 post-Shah oil price explosion, Saudi Arabia — according to some observers — may not be adverse to seeing those same Opec colleagues now suffer some of the consequences.

However, Saudi Arabian oil production, which slipped to under 8 million barrels a day last month from its official ceiling of 8.5 million barrels, may well be allowed to slip further without the Saudi rulers making any official announcements. A full-scale publicly announced cut in output of say 2 million barrrels a day cannot be ruled out however — and that would take up most of the slack in the world oil market.

Despite its present problems, it would be foolish and premature to write Opec off — or to claim that it is on the verge of collapse. But the conventional wisdom in the oil industry — that Opec only operates as an effective cartel when prices need defending, and not when they need raising (which usually turns into a free-for-all judging by the events of 1979 and 1980), is put to the sternest possible test.

The numbers in the world oil supply and demand balance indicate how far prices may have to fall unless Opec sorts out its internal difficulties.

Total non-communist world demand has fallen away steadily from 52 million barrels a day in 1979 to 47.3 million barrels a day last year. This year it could drop to 45 million barrels a day during the summer, when demand is historically weak, and average out for the year as a whole as at around 46 million barrels a day.

Taking account of the increased production now coming from non-Opec sources such as Mexico and the North Sea, that implies that themarket for Opec oil will be no more than about 20.5 million barrels a day. That would be roughly equivalent to last year's Opec output, which was already the lowest since the early 1960s.

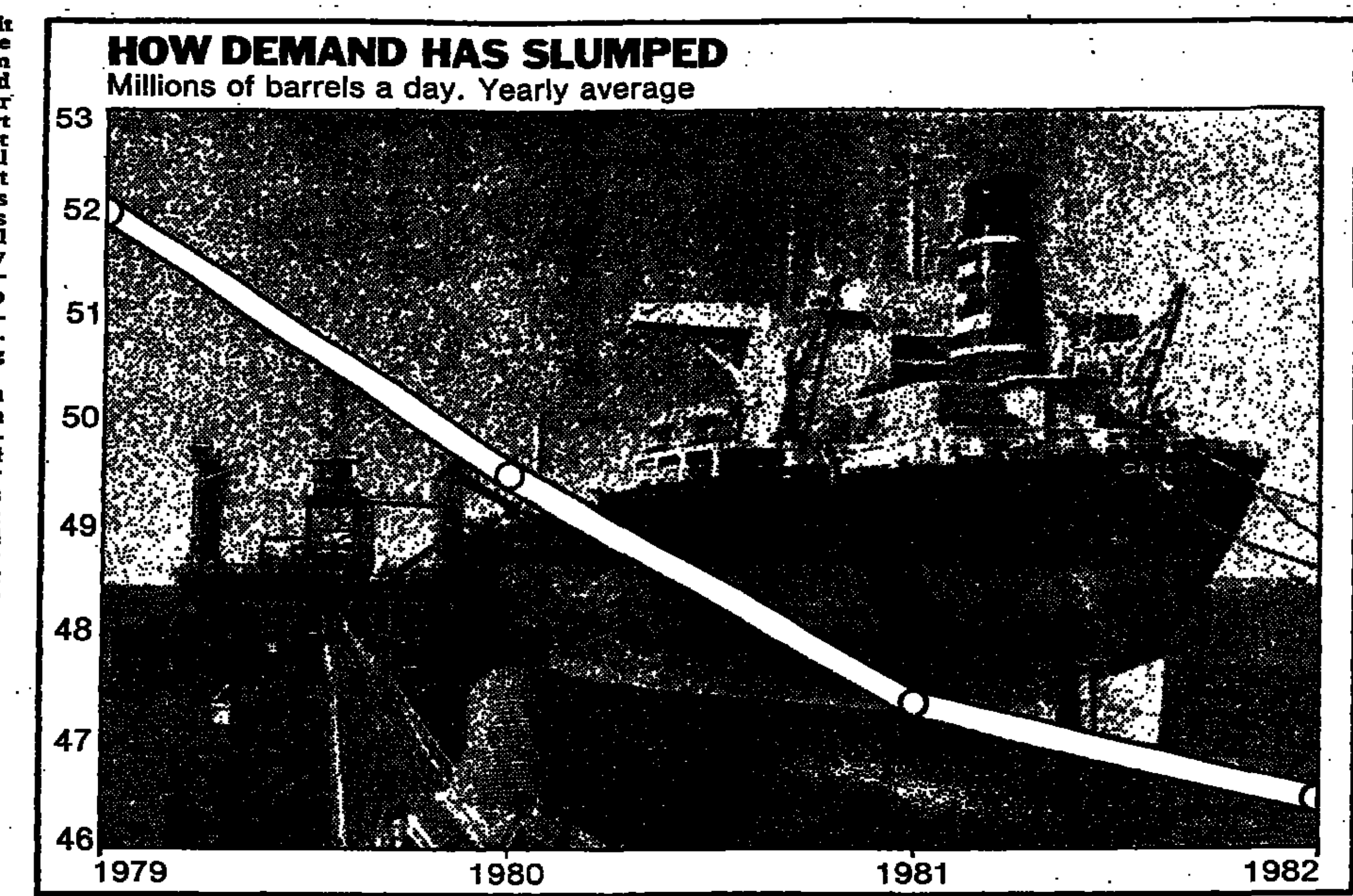
The real crunch will come with winter, and the long-awaited world recovery from recession. When economic activity picks up, so will oil demand. But how much will depend crucially on how effective the trebling of the oil price between the end of 1978 and the middle of last year has been in stimulating conservation and substitution of other fuels for oil.

All the indications on that score are encouraging. Between 1978 and 1981 the seven leading OECD economies, the United States, Japan, Germany, France, Italy, Canada and Britain, cut their oil use by 23 per cent — seven times as large as the switch away from oil use prompted by the first oil price explosion in 1973/4. Most encouraging has been the response in the United States, where oil imports have slumped from their peak of 6.5 million barrels of oil in 1977 to an estimated 3.5 million barrels of oil today.

How far will oil prices fall? Oil traders, many of whom have been making money out of talking the price of oil down in recent weeks, say that it could yet fall as far as $28 or even $25 a barrel.

Some oil companies (still a minority) express similar sentiments. The International Energy Agency has rightly been urging countries not to get complacent about efficient use of oil — again — now that prices are falling. Complacency would be one way of easing Opec's crisis without too much bother. While it is down, Opec is sill far from out.

Jonathan Davis



Business Editor

Tightening up on the USM

Because of the inherently higher risk in dealing with young, immature companies, the stock exchange's Unlisted Securities Market will have to weather accidents in its formative years. How well the USM develops as an alternative to a full listing for companies which are too small and without a good enough trading record will, to some extent, depend on how it copes with thrills and spills which have upset the market in recent months.

These could, if the stock exchange is not careful, make investors more chary in future.

Too much, then, should not be read into Euroflames local difficulties at the moment for the development of the USM as a whole. It is not after all the first USM stock to get into trouble — some like United Electronic have missed their forecast and Rowe Rudd's brainchild, Associated Communications Industries has already had a capital reconstruction.

M. J. Nightingale's over-the-counter market did not suffer any long-term damage from its occasional mistakes like Twinlock. And in America — the home of the OTC business — far worse happens.

Clearly there was great pressure in its early days not to hamper the development of the USM. Indeed, the original entry requirements were relaxed in order not to put off newcomers. Most importantly the accountants' report was deemed to be unnecessary, the minimum amount of equity to be sold cut back from 15 to 10 per cent, and the idea that the USM was only a transitional stage towards a full listing abandoned.

Since then the USM has been a conspicuous success with numbers of entrants and the turnover in their shares well above expectations. It has been turned a little too much towards oil exploration and high technology stocks to make it truly representative of what is happening in the growth sections of British industry generally, but that is presumably a result of what the issuing houses feel will be salable to investors.

And because of the narrowness of the market in most of the shares, swings in share prices — Nimslo for instance — have been rather wider than many small investors are used to.

All the same the Euroflame troubles should again force the stock exchange to review its entry requirements to the USM, and whether in particular they should not be tightened up to include a more rigorous independent report from an accountant.

Gilts Resilient

New York markets returned from Washington's Birthday yesterday with an almighty hangover. Down went bond prices and the Dow Jones Industrial Average, the latter quickly piercing its previous 1981-82 "low". The consensus view seems to be that the big banks may well push prime rates up to 17 per cent before too long — the question being whether that will be the top.

Meanwhile, United Kingdom interest rates remain remarkably steady. As far as money market rates go, this can be put down largely to the authorities' determination to keep rates roughly where they are. But there has also been considerable resilience in the gilt edged market under the circumstances.

The market remains thin at the moment with jobbers seemingly running relatively small books, so price movements may be sharp in either direction.

Investors however are clearly trying their hardest to put the United States out of their minds and concentrate on what they hope will be improving United Kingdom fundamentals — a gently falling inflation rate as the year progresses, and a Budget that restricts the prospective weight of funding for the next financial year.

Can women take the pressure?

Can women cope with a stressful career in management as well as maintain a home, or will they end up with coronary disease "like men"?

More men die of coronary heart disease in Britain and early evidence from the American National Institute of the Heart, Lungs, and Blood indicates that working women with two or more children have the same incidence of stress-related heart disease as their male counterparts.

Many experts in America and Europe feel that the health risk to women managers is directly related to the lack of support they get from their work organizations, their husbands, and the community at large. It was to investigate the health of such executives and their sources of stress that we decided to carry out a 10 year longitudinal study into the problem of women managers. This study, which at present covers nearly 50 women and is aiming to build up to several hundreds, parallels a 10 year study we are curently involved in on male executive health, which is in its sixth year and covers more than 400 managers.

The study on female managers examines their whole behaviour. At several intervals during the 10 years, each woman manager is given an intensive physical and biochemical examination. She also answers a detailed annual questionnaire covering smoking, drinking, drugtaking, physical health, mental state, job stresses, adverse events in life such as death in the family or unemployment, and many other factors that may alter their well-being.

Our investigation of the first group of 20 female executives has been revealing. The sample in this detailed clinical study consisted of senior women managers, with an average age of 33 and salaries in excess of £11,000.

They ranged in function from personnel, to finance/accounting, to general management; and were from a variety of organizations and industries.

The initial sample is small, so it is far too early to draw conclusions, but the early results do provide some "signposts" which we shall be watching for as the sample is expanded.

The percentage figures used to express results are based on those responding to a particular question. The response rate was very high but occasionally a manager declined to answer an individual question.

The first interesting, but perhaps not surprising finding was that only 33 per cent were married, whereas 28 per cent were single, 22 per cent divorced /separated, and 17 per cent "living together".

This is consistent with American studies, which have shown that the first crop of women managers to get to senior management positions frequently can only do so by pursuing their career to the exclusion of a family or any consideration of a family. Our research indicates, however, that a greater proportion of the next generation of women managers (now in junior management positions) are married with families as well as careers.

The detailed analysis of the 20 showed that 44 per cent had used tranquillisers sometime during their career, although the vast majority of these only used them during periods of work stress. Many had sleeping difficulties, with 40 per cent acknowledging "difficulty getting to sleep" and 50 per cent admitting to "waking several times during the night". Indeed, 35 per cent indicated that they took Mogadon or other sleeping tablets, but only for short periods of time. It was also found that 56 per cent of them had "less sleep than they needed", averaging only about 6 hours a night. While only 5 per cent of the sample smoked cigarettes, 28 per cent of them had between one and six alcoholic drinks a day (usually during business lunches or dinners); with 17 per cent having between three and six drinks a day.

AT WORK: STRESS

By Cary Cooper and Andrew Melhuish

Not one of the sample was teetotal; 28 per cent were "occasional drinkers" and 44 per cent had "several drinks a week, but not every day."

These results are consistent with an earlier study carried out in the Department of Management Services at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology in which 135 senior female executives in Britain were asked about their physical and psychological health symptoms.

It was found that 60 per cent of that sample admitted being frequently "irritable", 50 per cent suffered from occasional bouts of anxiety, 69 per cent from tiredness, 42 per cent from tension in the neck and back, 35 per cent from anger, and 34 per cent from such things as sleeplessness. Our intensive physical examinations confirm these early survey results, which indicate that women managers may be under extreme pressure at work, although it will be a year or two before the results of a larger sample are available to confirm this.

It was also revealing that more than half the group of 20 felt "severely stressed to the extent that their capacity to cope with difficulties had been reduced for several days or longer, on at least three times during the last 10 years of their work life, with 28 per cent experiencing five or more such stressful occasions. When asked what work-related problems were the major causes of their stress the results were as in the table.

- Relationships with senior colleagues at work — 100%
- Conflict between personal standards and work demands — 72%
- Boredom at work — 72%
- Inability to cope with the challenge of work (competition, deadlines) — 66%
- Frustrated ambition over career — 50%
- Relationships with colleagues of equal status at work — 50%
- Long hours away from family — 33%
- Relationships with junior colleagues at work — 33%
- Inability to delegate — 28%
- Fear of redundancy — 22%

A major problem faced by many women managers is trying to maintain a career and a family at the same time, as illustrated by their "frustration over a future career", "long hours away from home", and so on.

A 42-year-old personnel manager in our sample illustrates this dilemma. She left school at 17, went abroad for a couple of years as a nannie and then joined an independent television company as assistant personnel officer and stayed for nearly two years. She then married at 21 and had two children, but carried on working. Her husband was also in personnel, but at a very senior level.

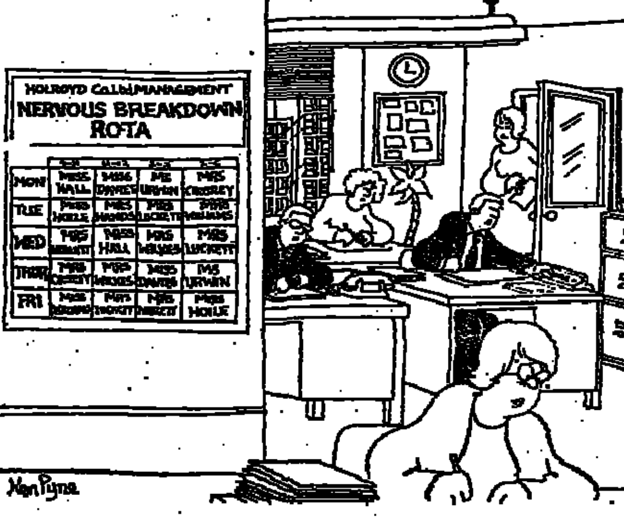
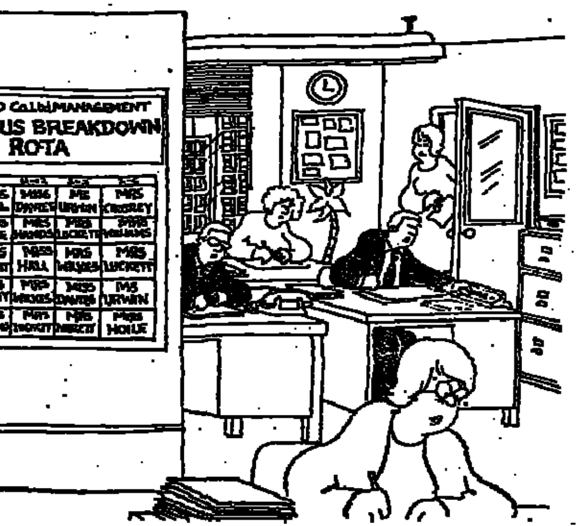
She was determined to maintain and develop her career in the personnel field, but the demands on her husband's job (which necessitated a number of geographical moves) and her children's education made it difficult for her to sustain her career.

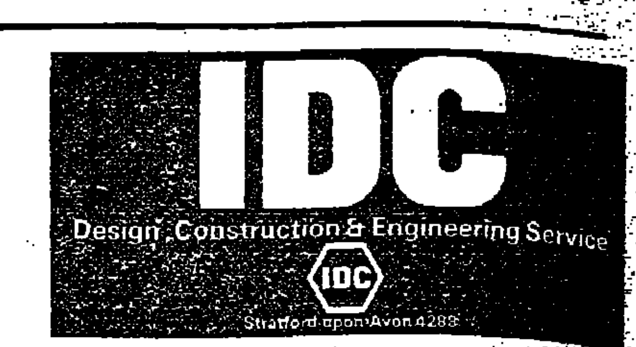
She worked for a grocery chain, a pharmaceutical company, and another TV company as she moved around the country with her husband until finally she began to show increasing signs of stress. She started drinking fairly heavily, averaging about three whiskies a night, and 2½ Mogadons to get her to sleep.

She has tried to reduce the Mogadon, but finds when she does that she does not sleep so well, waking early and constantly worrying ... this vicious circle makes her even more depressed and has adversely affected both her work and her marriage. She is having more frequent bouts of depression and her relationship with her husband has deteriorated.

This case is an extreme example of what we are finding all the time in industry, the pressures on women of trying to balance the world of work and home, a task which seems to generate very little support from husbands and companies.

Cary Cooper is Professor of Organizational Psychology and Head of the Department of Management Sciences at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology. Andrew Melhuish is Medical Adviser to the Administrative Staff College, Henley.



Stock Exchange Prices

Gilts hold steady

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began Feb 15. Dealings End Feb 26. § Contango Day, Mar 1. Settlement Day, Mar 8.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

MEDIUMS

LONGS

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A — B

C — E

F — H

I — L

M — N

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
203	100	Man Ship Canal	101	−2	..	..	..
35	21	Mang Bronze	31	+1	3.1	10.0	..
154	72	Marchwiel	134	−4	8.6	6.4	..
145	106	Marks & Spencer	138	−2	5.8	4.2	18.8
51	33½	Marley Ltd	43½ •	−½	3.2	7.4	12.1
37	14½	Marling Ind	35	−½	1.4	4.0	24.5
50	22	Marshall T Lox	48	..	4.0	8.3	4.3
48	21	Do A	46	..	4.0	8.6	4.1
323	178	Martin News	323	+10	13.9	4.3	7.0
270	209	Martonair	220	..	10.9	4.9	12.9
74	48	Medminster	68	..	5.3	7.8	7.3
250	140	Menzies J.	245	+2	5.6	2.3	12.2
224	128	Metal Box	180	−8	16.5	9.2	15.8
32¾	37¼	Metalrax	44	..	3.1	7.1	7.2
25	12	Mettoy	13	..	0.1	1.1	..

O — S

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
195	140	Syltone	195	..	12.9	6.6	21.6

T — Z

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
26	15	TACE	23	+2	..	..	6.9
121	65	TSL Therm Synd	92 •	..	10.0b	10.9	11.4
25¹/₁₆	10³¹/₃₂	Takeda BDR	£23	..	17.6	0.8	35.1
6½	2½	Talbex Grp	4½	..	..	..	..
440	316	Tarmac Ltd	422	−6	23.3	5.5	7.2
220	126	Tate & Lyle	200	−4	16.4	8.2	5.4
607	441	Taylor Woodrow	560	..	19.0	3.3	10.3
400	250	Telephone Rent	335	−5	14.6	4.4	16.7

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

RUBBER

TEA

MISCELLANEOUS

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
46	27½	Calcutta Elec	41 •	..	8.8	21.4	..
34½	29	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£31 •	..	500	16.1	..
31	20	Gt Nthn Tele	£33	..	150	4.5	12.4
265	150	Imp Cont Gas	205	−3	21.9	5.8	12.0
158	93	Milford Docks	156	..	0.7	0.5	..
193	122	Nesco Inv	135	..	10.0	7.4	..
35	28½	Sunderlnd Wtr	£33	..	500	15.2	..

• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) February 16	Market rates (close) February 16	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.8260-1.8350	$1.8310-1.8320	0.32-0.42c disc	0.94-1.04c disc
Montreal	$2.2220-2.2340	$2.2305-2.2315	0.13-0.23c disc	0.60-0.75c disc
Amsterdam	4.79½-4.82½fl	4.80½-4.81½fl	1⅝-1¼c prem	5¼-4¾c prem
Brussels	74.55-74.95f	74.70-74.80f	18-38c disc	72-92c disc
Copenhagen	14.34-14.39k	14.36-14.37k	30-45ore disc	110-130ore disc
Dublin	1.2440-1.2500p	1.2460-1.2475p	150-240p disc	650-785p disc
Frankfurt	4.37½-4.40½m	4.38½-4.39½m	1⅝-1¼pf prem	4¾-4¼pf prem
Lisbon	127.50-128.50e	127.90-128.20e	45-165c disc	155-415c disc
Madrid	185.25-186.00p	185.50-185.70p	par-25c disc	75-105c disc
Milan	2335-2342lr	2338-2340lr	11-14lr disc	39-42lr disc
Oslo	10.96-11.02k	10.98½-10.99½k	210-120ore prem	150-160ore disc
Paris	11.11-11.16f	11.12¾-11.13¾f	½ prem-½c disc	1⅞-2⅜c disc
Stockholm	10.62½-10.67½k	10.65-10.66k	50 prem-10ore disc	335-275ore prem
Tokyo	438-443y	440½-441½y	283-250y prem	880-835y prem
Vienna	30.65-30.85sch	30.75-30.80sch	16-12gro prem	43-36gro prem
Zurich	3.49-3.53f	3.50-3.51f	1⅞-1⅝c prem	5⅛-4⅝c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was down 0.1 at 91.6

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 14%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 14½ Low 13

Week Fixed: 14

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	13²³/₃₂	2 months	13¹¹/₁₆
3 months	13¹¹/₁₆	3 months	13¹¹/₁₆

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	13⅞-13²⁷/₃₂	1 month	14⅛
2 months	13²⁷/₃₂-13¾	2 months	14⅛
3 months	13²⁷/₃₂-13²³/₃₂	3 months	14⅛
6 months	13⅝-13⁹/₁₆	6 months	14³/₁₆

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	15-14¾	7 months	14⅝-14¼
2 months	14⅞-14⅝	8 months	14⅝-14¼
3 months	14⅝-14⅜	9 months	14⅞-14⅝
4 months	14¾-14½	10 months	14⅞-14⅝
5 months	14⅝-14⅜	11 months	14⅞-14⅝
6 months	14⅝-14⅜	12 months	14⅝-14⅜

Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (%)

1 month	14½-14⅜	6 months	14⅝-14⁹/₁₆
3 months	14¹¹/₁₆-14⁹/₁₆	12 months	14⅝-14½

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	14⅛	3 months	14⅝
7 days	14¼	6 months	14½
1 month	14⁵/₁₆	1 year	14½

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 14⅝-14¼ Close 12

1 week	14⅝-14¼	6 months	14¹¹/₁₆-14⁹/₁₆
1 month	14⁹/₁₆-14⁷/₁₆	9 months	14¹¹/₁₆-14⁹/₁₆
3 months	14⅝-14⅜	12 months	14¹¹/₁₆-14⁹/₁₆

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)

3 months 15¼ 6 months 15¼

Finance House Base Rate 15½%

Other Markets

Australia	1.6915-1.7065
Bahrein	0.6895-0.6925
Finland	8.3080-8.3480
Greece	112.30-114.30
Hongkong	10.8420-10.8820
Iran	n.a.
Kuwait	0.5225-0.5255
Malaysia	4.2805-4.2905
Mexico	48.45-49.95
New Zealand	2.3160-2.3360
Saudi Arabia	6.2565-6.2985
Singapore	3.8885-3.9165
South Africa	1.7995-1.8145

Dollar Spot Rates

*Ireland	1.4650-1.4685
†Canada	1.2185-1.2187
Netherlands	2.6200-2.6230
Belgium	40.78-40.83
Denmark	7.8400-7.8500
West Germany	2.3930-2.3940
Portugal	69.87-70.07
Spain	101.25-101.35
Italy	1276.50-1277.50
Norway	5.9850-6.0050
France	6.0700-6.0730
Sweden	5.8100-5.8200
Japan	240.50-240.65
Austria	16.83-16.85
Switzerland	1.9080-1.9100

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8207-0.8209

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 14¼-15¼; seven days, 16³/₁₆-16¹/₁₆; one month, 16⁷/₁₆-16⁵/₁₆; three months, 16⅝-16⅜; six months, 16⅝-16⅜.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $376.25 (an ounce); pm, $375.25 close, $375.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $387-389 (£211.30-212.80).
Sovereigns (new): $91.75-92.75 (£50-50.50).

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
A and G Sec Elect 5p Ord (60a)	61
Baillie Gifford Japan Trust 25p Ord (100)	95
City Site 25p Ord (35a)	30
Computer and Systems Eng 20p Ord (225)	246
Cussins Property Group 20p Ord (82)	84
Equipu 10p Ord (80a)	93-1
Exchequer 13¾% 'A' 1987 (I)	£20⅛
Good Relations Group 10p Ord (61a)	72
Hardanger Properties 10p Ord (100a)	97
Hayters £1 Ord (150a)	160
Moray Firth Exp	105
Newmarket Co (1981) Ltd $0.05 ($3.05)	270+2
Nimslo Int 0.20 Ord ($4.25a)	163+1
Owners Abroad 10p Ord (10a)	10½+¼
Peek Holdings 7p Ord	15½
Saxon Oil 50p Ord (12½p paid)	53
Speyhawk 10p Ord (115)	131
Treasury 3% 1987	£66⅛
Treasury 2½% Index Linked 2011 (†1)	£33¼

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
Davy Corp (140†)	Mar 19	15 prem−1
Glass Glover (55†)	Mar 3	116
Lovell Y. J. (220†)	Mar 26	43 prem−4
MEPC (188†)	Mar 23	238−1
Smith St. Aubyn (25†)	Mar 19	14 prem−3

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. + Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a unlisted securities market. b. £10 paid. f fully paid. g £40 paid. h £30 paid. i £35 paid. j £20 paid. k Issued in units of sixteen shares and £5 nominal loan stock at £9 per unit.



[redacted]

هكذا من الأصل

No offence when bona fide buyer sells

Regina v Bloxham

Before Lord Diplock, Lord Scarman, Lord Bridge of Harwich and Lord Brandon of Oakbrook

[Speeches delivered February 11]

A bona fide purchaser for value does not commit an offence of dishonestly undertaking the disposal or realization of stolen property for the benefit of another if, when he sells the goods, he knows or believes them to be stolen.

The House of Lords unanimously so held when allowing an appeal by Albert John Bloxham from the dismissal by the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Dunn, Mr Justice Kilner Brown and Mr Justice Taylor) (*The Times*, February 24, 1981; [1981] WLR 859) of his appeal against conviction at Southampton Crown Court (Judge McCreery) of handling stolen goods contrary to section 22(1) of the Theft Act 1968.

Secton 22(1) provides: "A person handles stolen goods if ... knowing or believing them to be stolen goods he ... dishonestly undertakes ... their ... disposal or realization ... for the benefit of another person ...".

Mr R. N. Titheridge, QC and Mr D. L. Griffiths for the appellant; Mr Swinton Thomas, QC and Mr Neil Butterfield for the Crown.

LORD BRIDGE said that in January 1977 the appellant purchased a Ford Cortina motor car for £1,300. He paid the seller £500 in cash and was to pay the balance when the seller produced the car's registration document.

In the event that never happened. The car had in fact been stolen but the Crown accepted that the appellant did not know or believe that when he acquired the car.

In December 1977 he sold the car for £200 to an unidentified third party who was prepared to take the car without any registration document.

At the trial it was submitted that the count disclosed no offence in that the disposal or realization of the car had been for the appellant's own benefit, not for the benefit of the unknown purchaser, and that in any event the purchaser was not within the ambit of categories of "other person" contemplated by secion 22(1).

The judge ruled that the purchaser derived a benefit from the transaction, in that, although he got no title, he had the use of the car; that there was no reason to give any restricted constuction to the words "another person" in the subsection; that, accordingly, on the undisputed facts, the appellant had undertaken the disposal or realization of the car for the benefit of another person within section 22(1). In the face of the ruling the appellant entered a plea of guilty.

The Court of Appeal affirmed the trial judges's ruling and dismissed the appeal. The point of law certified was: Does a bona fide purchaser for value commit an offence of dishonestly undertaking the disposal or realization of stolen property for the benefit of another if when he sells the goods on he knows or believes them to be stolen? The appeal was brought with leave of the House.

The critical words to be construed were "undertakes ... their ... *disposal or realization* ... for the benefit of another person". In isolation the words seemed to convey that, if A sold his own goods to B, it was a somewhat strained use of language to describe that as a disposal or realization of the goods for the benefit of B. It was the puchase not the sale that was for the benefit of B. It was only when A was selling as agent for a third party C that it would be entirely natural to describe the sale as a disposal or realization for the benefit of another person.

However, the words could not be construed in isolation but in their context bearing in mind that the second half of section 22(1) created a single offence which could be committed in various ways. The offence could be committed in one or other of two ways. The offender might himself undertake the activity for the benefit of another person. The activity might be undertaken by another person and the offender might assist him.

A purchaser, as such, of stolen goods could not be "another person" within the subsection, since his act of purchase could not sensibly be described as a disposal or realization of the stolen goods by him. Equally, therefore, even if the sale to him could be described as a disposal or realization for his benefit, the transaction was not within the ambit of section 22(1).

In forming that opinion his Lordship had not overlooked that in *R v Deakin* ([1972]) 1 WLR 1618) Lord Justice Phillimore said of the appellant, a purchaser of stolen goods who was clearly guilty of an offence under the first half of section 22(1) but had been charged only under the second half, that he was "involved in the realization". If Lord Justice Phillimore had meant to say that a purchase of goods was a realization of those goods by the purchaser, respectful disagreement had to be expressed.

If the foregoing considerations did not resolve the issue of construction in favour of the appellant, at least they were sufficient to demonstrate that there was an ambiguity. As a general rule ambiguities in a criminal statute were to be resolved in favour of the subject, namely, in favour of the narrower rather than the wider operation of an ambiguous penal provision. There were, however, more specific and weightier indications which pointed in the same direction as the general rule.

It was significant that section 3(2) of the 1968 Act specifically protected the innocent purchaser of goods who subsequently discovered that they were stolen. Words in parenthesis in section 22(1), namely "(otherwise than in the course of the stealing)" were designed to avoid subjecting thieves in the ordinary course to the heavier penalty provided for handlers.

Finally, the report of the Criminal Law Revision Committee (Cmnd 2977) in paragraph 127 gave a general indication of the mischief aimed at by the Act which was subsequently passed.

There was no hint in ensuing paragraphs that a situation in any way approximating to the circumstances of the present case lay within the target area of the mischief which the committee intended their new provision to hit.

Any ambiguity in the relevant language of section 22(1) was to be resolved in favour of the narrower meaning. The certified question was to be answered in the negative and the appeal allowed.

Lord Diplock, Lord Scarman and Lord Brandon agreed.

Solicitors: Ward Bowie for Bernard Chill & Axtell, Southampton; Theodore Goddard & Co for Mr R. N. Bourne, Winchester.

Magistrates' orders as to costs

Bunston v Rawlings

Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice and Mr Justice Woolf

[Judgment delivered February 15]

On an appeal by case stated from Whitminster justices, Gloucestershire, the Divisional Court considered whether the justices had any jurisdiction or power under section 2(1) of the Costs in Criminal Cases Act 1973 to make an order that the costs incurred by the defendant, Mr Peter Rawlings, in defending charges under the Trade Descriptions Act 1968, be taxed by the clerk to the justices and paid by the prosecutor, Mr Alan Richard Bunston, a trading standards officer.

Mr Malcolm Bishop for the prosecutor; Mr Gavin Chalmers for the defendant.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, reading the reserved judgment of the court, said that nothing in section 2 of the 1973 Act provided how the amount of costs awarded was to be ascertained.

Usually justices would have no difficulty, with the help of the parties or their advisers, at the end of the hearing in arriving at a just figure to compensate a successful defendant for the money properly expended in carrying out his defence. In the rare case where the necessary information was lacking or not readily available justices might wish to use the services of their clerk.

In such cases it was open to them to adjourn the matter to enable the clerk to make inquiries from the parties as to the costs incurred. The information should then be communicated to the prosecutor and defendant and laid before the justices. The parties should be given the opportunity of making representations before the justices finally decided the matter.

Justices had no power simply to delegate their duties in regard to costs to their clerk or anyone else. They could obtain assistance, but had to retain control.

Solicitors: Mr D. A. Dean, Gloucester; Wellington & Clifford, Gloucester, for Anthony Courtney & Co, Dartmouth.

Full details of injuries

Regina v Cooper

When a criminal court made a compensation order in respect of personal injury suffered by the victim the court should have had full and up-to-date information about the injuries sustained; and when the court wished to impose a fine with a period of imprisonment in default, to be payable by instalments, it should have been so expressed that the period of imprisonment was in default of the fine as a whole and not in default of each and any instalment, Mr Justice Stocker (sitting with Lord Justice Ackner and Lord Justice May) held in the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) on February 5.

Capital transfer tax avoidance fails

Inland Revenue Commissioners v Brandenburg

Before Mr Justice Nourse

[Judgment delivered February 12]

A complicated tax avoidance scheme designed to enable an elderly mother to give her daughter £40,000 free of capital transfer tax, failed in its object because deeming provisions contained in paragraph 24(5) of schedule 5 to the Finance Act 1975 could be applied to one of the steps in the scheme so as to nullify its effect.

Mr Justice Nourse so held in allowing an appeal by the Crown from a decision of the special commissioners that had quashed a notice of determination dated October 30, 1979, imposing liability on the taxpayer Mrs Alma Brandenburg, to pay the tax amounting to £3,812.

His Lordship declined to decide the second and important issue that was raised by the case: namely whether or not the scheme was caught by the disposal by "associated operations" provisions in sections 51(1) and 44 of the Act.

On December 9, 1977, the taxpayer who was resident in the United Kingdom, settled £40,000 on trustees; the income of which was to be held for C Ltd, a close company resident in Jersey. The issued share capital of that company was in the absolute beneficial ownership of the taxpayer during the short trust period.

Thereafter the settled property and its future income were to be held in trust for the taxpayer's non-resident daughter absolutely. [No liability to the tax arose on the creation of the settlement by virtue of paragraph 3 of schedule 5 to the Act.]

The trustees invested the fund in government securities that were excluded property for tax purposes when beneficially owned by a non-resident under paragraph 3(2) of schedule 7. On December 19, the taxpayer assigned to C Ltd absolutely her beneficial interest in the income of the fund.

Days later for a nominal consideration C Ltd assigned to the taxpayer's daughter absolutely the income of the fund. Thus the daughter was absolute beneficial owner of the whole of the settled property.

The determination sought to impose liability on the taxpayer on the basis that the settlement and the assignments constituted a disposition by associated operations within the meaning of sections 51(4) and 44 that amounted to a chargeable transfer of value. The taxpayer's appeal against that determination was allowed by the commissioners.

Mr Richard Scott QC and Mr Christopher McCall for the Crown; Mr Robert Walker for the taxpayer.

MR JUSTICE NOURSE, in a reserved judgment, said that the Crown now relied on an argument that it had not put before the commissioners. It arose as follows: immediately before C Ltd assigned the income from the fund to the daughter, it was entitled to an interest in possession in the settled property.

Thus under paragraph 3(1)(b) of schedule 7 and because of the decision in *Von Ernst & Cie SA v IRC* ([1980] 1 WLR 468) that assignment did not prima facie occasion any charge to the tax on a disposal of an interest in possession because the assignor, C Ltd, was non-resident and the settled property consisted of excluded property.

But relying on paragraph 24(5) of schedule 5, the Crown now submitted that as the taxpayer was the sole shareholder and the sole person beneficially entitled to income and thus the sole participator in C Ltd, it was she and not C Ltd who was to be treated as the person beneficially entitled to the interest in possession in the settled property immediately prior to the assignment, in which event her United Kingdom status excluded the exemption.

To decide that question one had to ask whether the purposes of schedule 5 included the charge under paragraph 4(1) of that schedule — termination of interest in possession treated as transfer of value. The answer was in the affirmative on the ground that it was one of the purposes of schedule 5 to impose such a charge.

Accordingly paragraph 24(5) required the taxpayer and not C Ltd to be treated as the person disposing of the interest in possession to the daughter and the settled property was thus not to be regarded as excluded property. That assignment therefore gave rise to a charge to tax under paragraph 4(1) and (2) of schedule 5.

That was enough for the Crown to succeed and his Lordship said that he would not decide the second question which was, had no charge arisen on the assignment to the daughter, whether the scheme as a whole constituted a disposition effected by "associated operations" under sections 51(1) and 44.

That was regarded by both parties as being a question of great general importance and it was not desirable, despite the full and admirable argument, to express any view when the decision of an anterior question was enough to dispose of the case. The appeal would be allowed. The Crown did not seek an order for costs.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue; Stephenson Harwood.

Profit from shares taxable as income

Cheatle v Inland Revenue Commissioners

Before Mr Justice Nourse

[Judgment delivered February 15]

A scheme devised by the General Electric Co Ltd to provide employees with interest-free loans to purchase shares in the company was caught by section 79(1) of the Finance Act 1972 with the result that a gain of £807 made by an employee on shares that he had acquired under the scheme had to be treated as being his earned income taxable under Schedule E.

His Lordship so held in dismissing an appeal by the taxpayer, Mr Arthur Cheatle, a senior employee in the GEC group, from a decision of the special commissioners who had upheld an assessment to income tax made on him for 1978-79 in a sum of £12,496.

The taxpayer, with other senior employees, participated in the scheme whereby GEC provided interest-free loans to participants for the purchase of its ordinary shares. The transactions were carried out through the agency of C Ltd, a company within the group, who retained the shares as security for the loans. Purchases were not made direct from GEC but from a jobber in the stock market.

In 1974 the taxpayer instructed C Ltd to purchase 2,658 shares in GEC at 79p each. In 1979 he sold 250 of those shares at 402p each. He appealed against an assessment seeking to impose liability to income tax on that gain under the provisions of section 79 of the 1972 Act.

Section 79 provides for a gain to be taxable under Schedule E— "(1) Where a person, on or after 6th April 1972, acquires shares or an interest in shares in a body corporate in pursuance of a right conferred on him or opportunity offered to him as a director or employee of that or any other body corporate, and not in pursuance of an offer to the public..."

Mr Andrew Park, QC and Mr Michael Flesch for the taxpayer; Mr Robert Carnwath for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE NOURSE said that the question was whether the scheme attracted the operation of section 79 (1). If it did, any employee who sold his shares at a profit would be chargeable to income tax on an amount equal to the profits in place of the normal charge to capital gains tax. It would be one of those cases where Parliament decided that the profit should be treated as if it was part of the remuneration for the employment rather than as a private profit of a capital nature.

Two requirements had to be satisfied for section 79(1) to apply: first the acquisition of shares had to be in pursuance of an opportunity offered to the taxpayer as an employee of GEC; second the acquisition was not to be in pursuance of an offer to the public.

The taxpayer argued that the opportunity for him to purchase the shares was not provided by GEC but by the jobber from whom the shares were bought in the market — he would have sold them to anyone who paid his price and neither knew nor cared who the purchaser was. Relying on *Ben-Odeco v Powlson* ([1978] 1 WLR 1093) he argued that what GEC provided was an opportunity to borrow and that that was different from an opportunity to aquire the shares.

But on any fair use of language it was impossible to say that the taxpayer did not acquire his shares in pursuance of an opportunity offered by GEC to him as an employee. Nor did it make any difference to that conclusion that the commissioners had found that the taxpayer could well have afforded to buy the shares without a loan and would probably have done so.

Further, the taxpayer's submission as to the second requirement of the subsection failed also. It was a short point and one of impression: the taxpayer's acquisition of the shares was not in pursuance of an offer to the public. The appeal was dismissed with costs.

An application by the taxpayer for a certificate under section 12 of the Administration of Justice Act 1969 to appeal direct to the House of Lords was adjourned.

Solicitors: Lewis Lewis & Co; Solicitor for Inland Revenue.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

This table is published on Wednesday and Saturday

1981/82 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Football

Brazil's night to savour breathes life into Ipswich

Brazil : World Cup prospects

By Norman Fox

Ipswich Town 5 Southampton 2

Five goals by Alan Brazil put the life back into Ipswich Town at Portman Road last night. Last season's runners-up, who had seen this season's efforts in cup and league falling apart, are now only six points behind Southampton, the side they beat so remarkably, and they have five games in hand.

For Brazil, this was a night for the memory and for the future. Surely he could not have enhanced his Scottish World Cup chances more dramatically, and Ipswich may yet have cause for further thanks for his retrieving of their own chances.

Had Ipswich rejoiced in such unanswerable form in the FA Cup at Shrewsbury last Saturday there would have been no need for Bobby Robson to suffer the indignity of calling for special effort to keep in touch in the championship. In the five-minute period of Brazil's first treble of his career, the team, still lacking Mariner, Thijssen and Butcher, had such confidence that Southampton's defence crumbled like chalk.

Once the big South African centre forward, D'Avray, mastered Waldron and Southampton allowed Mills and Burley acres of room on the right, Ipswich were irrepressible.

Brazil's goals were all efficiently executed but Southampton were often at fault defensively. Nicholl abandoned Brazil for the first goal after 14 minutes; D'Avray, replacing Mariner with confidence and power, headed on Wark's pass and Brazil enjoyed freedom by shooting in. Three minutes later D'Avray again veered to make Brazil's second. This time he dived bravely to reach Wark's forward pass; it seemed too close to Katalinic who was, nevertheless, disarmed by D'Avray's challenge. The accepted an easy second shot.

Only two more minutes had passed when a long, probing ball from Steggles ran into Brazil's path. Again he was unmarked and there was nothing Katalinic could do as Brazil sped through and planted another well-taken shot. Southampton struggled untidily to regain some measure of control over a game full of their mistakes. Keegan remonstrated with fainter hearts and eventually, two minutes from the interval, Ipswich were brought nearer earth.

Channon and Armstrong linked before Puckett slithered into the penalty area to score when more or less on his back. Southampton would have been more encouraged had Osman not dominated Keegan and D'Avray continued to take the weight of Southampton's defence away from Brazil. The effect was to make Ipswich appear dangerous throughout and Brazil deserved his fourth when put clear in front by D'Avray after 69 minutes.

Slack goalkeeping by Cooper allowed their lead to be eroded when Lawrence, Southampton's substitute on the right wing, centred for Keegan to enjoy an unchallenged header into the net. However, yet another breakaway by Brazil from Gates's long pass then tantalised Waldron, brought the Scot his fifth.

IPSWICH TOWN: P Cooper; G Burley, S McCall, M Mills, R Osman, K Steggles, E Gates, J Wark, A Muhren, M D'Avray, A Brazil, [illegible].

SOUTHAMPTON: I Katalinic; I Golac (sub, S Lawrence), N Holmes, G Baker, C Nicholl, C Waldron, K Keegan, M Channon, D Puckett, D Armstrong, A Ball.

Referee: J Bray (Hinckley).

Swansea upstage their mentors

By Peter Walker

Swansea City 2 Liverpool 0

Swansea City beat Liverpool—in so many ways their mentors—at the Vetch Field last night in a league contest which the Swansea manager, John Toshack, described as the British game at its best. "It gave me more satisfaction than anything in my career", he said.

Ray Kennedy, latest Liverpool player to join Swansea, added to the euphoria. "We won it the way Liverpool would have won it", he said, after a match which was settled by two goals in the last 16 minutes.

The mutual respect that the two sides had for each other—someone suggested it was like Liverpool playing Liverpool Reserves—ensured a bland opening half. Swansea, lacking the precision needed, were unable to shake off close defensive marking, and Liverpool appeared to be suffering from the memory of Saturday's FA Cup defeat at Chelsea.

Liverpool had won 4—0 at the Vetch Field in the third round of the cup and so Swansea approached this League encounter with less than total confidence. Yet they so nearly snatched an early lead. Stanley made ground down the right and his cross was glanced goalwards by Charles. Grobbelaar, diving low to his right, saved well.

Liverpool began the second half with altogether more purpose and resolve. A frantic goalmouth scramble after five minutes saw two Dalglish shots smothered in quick succession and ended with Irwin heading into his own crossbar and away for a corner.

Souness and McDermott began to regain control in midfield, but it was Stanley, of Swansea, who nearly broke the deadlock. Breaking forward powerfully from the right, he swept past Alan Kennedy, played a neat one-two with Leighton James and had time to pick his spot. Grobbelaar had narrowed the angle, however, and saved competently.

It seemed as if each side had settled for a point when suddenly the game was transformed by an astonishing goal after 74 minutes from Leighton James. Taking a free kick ten yards outside the penalty area, he hit a right-foot drive that travelled with the velocity of a Jack Nicklaus three-wood. Even as agile a goalkeeper as Grobbelaar had absolutely no chance as it entered the top corner of the net.

With Liverpool committed to all-out attack, Dalglish wasted the best chance of the match when he could not turn fast enough after beating Davies to the ball. Irwin forced the ball away for a corner.

Left thin at the back, Liverpool's hopes of salvaging something from the match were dashed with a minute to go. Charles broke away from the centre spot and freed Curtis, who kept his head to round Grobbelaar and roll the ball home for his 100th goal for Swansea.

SWANSEA CITY: D Davies; C Stanley, C Marustik, C Irwin, R Kennedy, A Rajkovic, A Curtis, R James, [illegible], M Thompson, [illegible].

LIVERPOOL: B Grobbelaar; P Neal, M Lawrenson, A Kennedy, R Whelan, A Hansen, K Dalglish, S Lee, I Rush, T McDermott, G Souness.

Referee: V G Callow (Solihull).

County put Coventry on the rack

Coventry City, having won through to the quarter-finals of the FA Cup, disgraced themselves last night in suffering their fifth successive home defeat in the league. Notts County won 5—1 and had three goals disallowed for offside. Their first was a header from Goodwin and Coventry, unsettled, allowed another headed goal from Harkouk.

Coventry pulled one back after 40 minutes from Hateley who hooked the ball in from Barnes but in the second half Mair took the score to 3—1 and in the last five minutes Christie and Chiedozie added two more.

The transfer request by Hunt, Coventry's midfield player, was turned down before the match by the club's directors. After a board meeting Jimmy Hil, the chairman, announced over stadium speakers that Hunit's request had been rejected. Hunt, who was warming up on the pitch at the time, signed a three-year contract last summer.

Managerless Birmingham City improved their chances of escaping relegation by beating fellow strugglers, Sunderland, with a goal in the last minute of each half. The Dutch winger, Van Mierlo, put their ahead in the 44th minutes with a header, after Giddall had pushed out an effort from Worthington.

Birmingham survived intense Sunderland pressure before breaking out for Worthington to curl a left-foot shot around Siddall on the stroke of full time. The crowd of just over 10,700 was Birmingham's second lowest of the season.

FA Cup

Fifth round replay

Orient (0) .. 0 QP Rangers (1) 1
10,067 Smillie

First division

Arsenal (0) .. 1 Mid'sbr'gh (0) 0
Rix 13,738

Bir'ham C (1) 2 Sunderland (0) 0
Van Mierlo, Worthington 10,776

Coventry C (1) 1 Notts Co (2) 5
Hateley 10,203 Goodwin, Harkouk, Mair, Christie, Chiedozie

Ipswich T (3) 5 S'thampton (1) 2
Brazil (5) Puckett, Keegan 20,264

Swansea C (0) 2 Liverpool (0) 0
L James, Curtis 22,604

Wolves (0) 0 Nottngm F (0) 0
11,195

Second division

Blackburn (0) 2 Rangers (0) 1
Stonehouse, Brotherston 6,884

Oldham (1) 2 Norwich (0) 0
Wylde, Keegan 5,285

Rotherham (1) 3 Shrewsbury (0) 0
Fern 2, Hughes 7,497

Sheffield W (0) 0 Bolton (0) 1
16,655 Foster

Third division

Walsall (0) 1 Huddersfld (0) 1
Waddington Austin 3,562

League Group Cup

Semi-final

Wimbledon (2) 5 Burnley (0) 0
Lazarus (2), Hodges, Blochel, Joseph 1,267

Winners play Grimbsy in final

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: AP Leamington 1, Frickley 0.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Cup, semi finals, first leg: Dorchester 1, Wealdstone 3; Gloucester 0, Aylesbury 0. Midland division: Bromsgrove 0, Merthyr Tydfil 0; Corby 5, Redditch 0; Stow'bridge 0, Wellingborough 0. Southern division: Basingstoke 2, Chelmsford 1; Canterbury 1, Hounslow 6; Thanet 2, Ashford 3.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: Bury 0, Coventry 0.

MIDLAND LEAGUE: Spalding 2, Sutton 1.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Bristol Rovers v Hereford—postponed; Chelsea 4, Tottenham Hotspur 0.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Billericay 1, Walthamstow Avenue 1; Carshalton Athletic 3, Croydon 1; Hendon 2, Harlow 1; Leytonstone and Ilford 3, Hitchin 0; Slough 4, Hayes 1; Stains 2, Tooting and Mitcham 1. First division: Clapton 2, Wembley 4; Hampton 0, Epsom and Ewell 0; Hertford 3, St Albans 1; Kingstonian 3, Shesham 1. Second division: Corinthian Casuals 1, Egham 0; Finchley 4, Tring 3; Letchworth Garden City 6, Rainham 0; Southall 0, Dorking 0.

ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Chalfont St Peter 3, Harefield 1; Fleet 0, Whyteleafe 0; Hoddesdon 1, Uxbridge 2; Horley v Burnham—postponed; Haringey Borough 3, Marlow 1; Kingsbury 1, Ruislip Manor 1; Woodford 0, Leyton-Wingate 2.

RUGBY UNION: Club matches: Cheltenham 12, Neath 19; Pontypridd 15; Coventry 47; Penarth 4, Maesteg 21.

RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Hull 25, York 16.

Rix's strike lights up Highbury gloom

By Peter Bills

Arsenal 1 Middlesbrough 0

Arsenal, who climbed to third place in the first division with this victory, must have learned two valuable lessons at Highbury last night.

Those who claim that results justify the method were surely proved wrong by a pitiful crowd of 13,738, the club's lowest League gate of the season. Those who did attend gave vent to their frustrations to such an extent that there was a chorus of boos when the players went off after a goalless first half. O'Leary gestured angrily at the critics in the main stand.

Arsenal learned their second lesson from one of their own players. Rix drove home a shot of such power and accuracy from 25 yards with only eight minutes remaining that the single strike shone like a beacon in a thick fog. Rix's moment of inspiration, which left the Middlesbrough

Yet the Londoners had spent the first 82 minutes attempting to disprove the belief. They can point to a place in the heart of the championship race as justification, but those who last night suffered, some not in silence, know rather better.

Terry Neill, the Arsenal manager, said after the match: "The size of the crowd is worrying, but we have got money in the bank. We will use it wisely. We are very aware of the need to provide entertainment and goals. It is very frustrating, but you can only keep trying to be as positive as possible. We are now third in the table and that is not bad for a bum team."

Middlesbrough lost McAndrew with a leg injury after 34 minutes with Thomson replacing him. Then Ashcroft was carried off 10 minutes before the end after collapsing with chest pains. He was taken to hospital and detained overnight for observation.

Davis's glancing header from a Holins coss just befoe the"rrl

Hollins cross just before the interval, Sunderland's strong shot into the side netting after 13 minutes and O'Leary's fierce shot from eight yards splendidly pushed over the bar by Platt were rare moments of Arsenal aggression.

For the rest, it was a familiar Highbury tale of industry, effort and determination bringing no reward, until Rix's goal.

ARSENAL: G Wood, J Hollins, K Sansom, B Talbot, D O'Leary, C Whyte, P Vaessen, A Sunderland, P Davis, P Nicholas (sub, R Meade), G Rix.

MIDDLESBROUGH: J Platt, J Craggs, I Bailey, M Angus, M Baxter, I Nattrass, T Cochrane, H Otto, D Hodgson, B Ashcroft, T McAndrew (sub, B Thomson).

Palace smile through

By Nicholas Harling

Orient 0 Crystal Palace 1

A goal by Smillie that was fit to win any cup tie sent Crystal Palace into the last eight of the FA Cup at Brisbane Road last night for the first time since they went a stage further under Malcolm Allison and his famous fedora hat six years ago.

Palace, who had already complained in advance at the prospect of playing a cup match on the Omniturf of Loftus Road, must now go to Queen's Park Rangers for the sixth round where they will review acquaintance once again with their former manager, Terry Venables. Mr Venables and the rest of us might still have been awaiting the outcome of this fifth round tie, however, had Moores not wasted a penalty with a spectacular miss only a minute after Smillie's goal.

With Moores having an unrewarding replay, Godfrey assumed the main responsibility of scoring for Orient and he nearly obliged after being sent clear by Silkman in the eighth minute. He outpaced Wicks but Barron, after letting the shot slip from his grasp, snatched it back on the line. Godfrey almost scored thrice more in the first half, but by then Orient's cause was more desperate, Palace having taken the lead and survived Moores' wild penalty attempt.

Appropriately the goal originated from Murphy, Palace's most creative player who came out of a tackle with Taylor to sweep the ball on to Mabbutt. His cross was knocked back by Langley to Sillie, whose half-volley from just outside the area was a goal all the way.

Two sides who had barely, by all accounts, shared a shot let alone a goal on Saturday, should then have had one apiece within two minutes. Godfrey, who was later to hit the bar with a header, went down under Boulter's challenge, only for Moores to do his worth from the spot, in the thirteenth minute.

Had either side possessed an able marksman, the scoreline would have reflected the adventurous approaches of both sides. The two managers have hardly promised a classic encounter but it was, as the Americans would say, a whole new ball game after Saturday.

ORIENT: M Day; C Foster, R Fisher, T Taylor, N Gray, [illegible], F Godfrey, J Margerrison, I Moores, B Silkman, [illegible].

CRYSTAL PALACE: P Barron; P Hinshelwood, [illegible], Murphy, [illegible], Mabbutt, [illegible], Smillie.

Referee: N Ashley (Cheshire).

● Steve Francis is in line for his first international honours less than five months after making his first appearance for Chelsea. The 17-year-old goalkeeper has been included in the 16-strong England youth squad for the first leg of the European championship qualifier against Scotland in Glasgow next week.

SQUAD: Francis (Chelsea), Duffield (Queen's Park Rangers), Elliott (Charlton Athletic), Foster (Bolton Wanderers), Harle (Doncaster Rovers), Lewis (West Bromwich Albion), Pickering (Sunderland), Robson (Arsenal), Singleton (Coventry City), I Snodin (Doncaster Rovers), Stoven (Burnley), Stewart (Blackpool), Gosney (Portsmouth), Walters (Aston Villa), Wright (Oxford United), Yallop (Ipswich Town).

Today's football and other fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

FIRST DIVISION: Aston Villa v Tottenham Hotspur.

SECOND DIVISION: Chelsea v Cardiff City (7.45).

THIRD DIVISION: Reading v Doncaster Rovers.

FOURTH DIVISION: Blackpool v Northampton Town; Darlington v Scunthorpe United; Hereford United v Sheffield United; Wigan Athletic v Aldershot.

SCOTTISH CUP: fourth round replay: Hibernians v Dundee United.

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION: Partick Thistle v Rangers.

FIRST DIVISION: Clydebank v Dumbarton; Dunfermline Athletic v Queen's Park; East Stirlingshire v Hamilton Academicals; Falkirk v Kilmarnock; Heart of Midlothian v Queen of the South; Motherwell v St Johnstone.

SECOND DIVISION: Alloa v Albion Rovers; Berwick Rangers v Stranraer; Brechin City v Arbroath; Stenhousemuir v Forfar Athletic; Stirling Albion v Meadowbank Thistle.

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Telford v Altrincham; Weymouth v Worcester; Yeovil v Enfield.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Bedford v Cambridge City; Bridgend v Minehead; Cheltenham v Enderby. Southern division: Addlestone and Weybridge v Waterlooville; Dover v Gosport; Dunstable v Welling.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Mossley v Tamworth; Southport v Witton Albion.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: Derby County v West Bromwich Albion (7.0); Leeds United v Bolton Wanderers; Nottingham Forest v Liverpool (7.0).

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Crystal Palace v Leicester City (2.0); West Ham United v Oxford United (2.0).

LONDON SENIOR CUP: Second round: Feltham v Dulwich Hamlet.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Walton and Hersham v Maidenhead United.

ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Edgware v Grays.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: FA XI v AFA XI (Harrow Borough FC).

BRITISH POLYTECHNICS CUP: Semi-final: Thames v Sheffield (North Staffs Poly 2.0).

ESFA HOBBS TROPHY: Quarter-final: Slough v High Wycombe (Slough Town FC).

UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: Semi-final: Birmingham v Bristol (Bisham Abbey, 2.0).

RUGBY UNION: Club matches: Bath v Bridgend (7.15); Cardiff v Swansea (7.15); Cambridge University v Trinity College, Dublin, (2.30); Cross Keys v Aberavon (7.0); Pontypool v South Wales Police (7.0); Swansea v South Glamorgan Institute (7.0); Tredegar v Ebbw Vale (7.0).

RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Barrow v Bradford Northern; Hull KR v Fulham; Warrington v Leigh.

HOCKEY: Representative matches: HA XI v UAU (Crystal Palace, 2.30); London University v RAF (Motspur Park).

Rugby Union

Seeking a way to escape from memories of poorer days

By Peter West

That ebullient character, Steve Smith, now installed as England's captain in his own right, will win his 24th cap at scrum half on Saturday in Paris. He will thus equal the record of Dick Jeeps, who established it between 1956 and 1962; Smith was 11 years old when the present chairman of the Sports Council played his last international and confesses that he never saw him play.

Another 11 years on, and Smith was making his England debut, against Ireland in Dublin. For some time that has made him, in length of service, England's "senior pro". After Bill Beaumont's enforced retirement, Peter Wheeler, now due for his 32nd appearance, takes over as the most capped member of the side.

Wheeler won his first cap in 1975, by which time a disenchanted, less-motivated Smith was picking up occasional crumbs at top level, and, one suspects, giving no thought at all to the idea that he could ever hope to approach the Jeeps record, let alone equal or surpass it.

Smith's memories of the Parc des Princes are mixed. Two years ago, in England's grand-slam season, he was able to direct affairs behind the masterful performance of a pack reaching its apogee. Four years earlier (Malcolm Young was the scrum half in a successful side in Paris in 1978), Smith suffered a miserable afternoon behind a pack given a fearful drubbing by a French eight which he rates as "a fantastic unit, the best I ever played against".

Men such: Paparemborde, Cholley, Rives, Skrela and Bastiat produced a torrent of good, loose ball, much of which mercifully was squandered. France, who won 30—9, might have got twice as many: "We don't know too much about the latest French pack", Smith reflects, "but I'm not sorry they've dropped Paparemborde. That ought to be a bonus for us."

His remark, made immediately after the Irish international, that England had performed like a lot of headless chickens, was not inapt. Having seen it again on video, he was surprised that so many players had had an off day, and convinced that some good ones "couldn't possibly do it again".

He felt no extra pressure as captain for the first time, but admits to frustration as he saw the game slipping away: "I racked my brains wondering how we could change course, chatting people up, reassuring them. I didn't think bollocking would make things any better.

"England's power base has shifted. We reckon now we've got the strength outside. But on the day, we didn't perform. It's much harder for the loose forwards to get into the game if the backs drop the ball, and fail to put it in front of them."

Smith was content with his scrummage possession but not surprisingly much less enthusiastic about what he got from slap-happy lineout ball, a distressing feature of too many England games since the grand slam success.

"Now we've got to do without Billy Beaumont, the best number two jumper I ever played with. Lineout ball from the front can often be untidy, but not with him. He nearly always gave it to you on a plate. Everyone's got the mesage. It's an area we've simply got to tighten up."

Smith : tightening the loose areas

Smith's half-back partner for the past eight internationals has been Huw Davies. Before that, for five matches—four of them in the grand slam year of 1980—it was John Horton. At the end of 1979, for the match against New Zealand at Twickenham, Les Cusworth superseded Neil Bennett at stand-off half and Smith, recalled for only his second full cap in five years, took over from Peter Kingston.

Cusworth has had to wait a long time to be relieved of the tag of a "one-cap wonder". Now he has Paul Dodge and Clive Woodward to support him, with "Dusty" Hare at the back. "He's got his mates", the captain says. "I hope he can play it like he does at Leicester."

Dodge confident

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

Paul Dodge, the England centre who missed the game against Ireland because of a hamstring injury, is confident that after a fitness test today he will be cleared to travel to Paris tomorrow for the international with France at the weekend.

Meanwhile, his Leicester colleague, "Dusty" Hare, recalled to the England side in place of the Wasps full-back Nick Stringer, has been reflecting on the swings and roundabouts in an international career which he had all but reconciled himself to thinking was finished.

The world's most prolific goalkicker (4,065 points) won 10 caps between 1974 and 1981, and had participated fruitfully in all four matches of the grand slam season in 1980, when England dropped him for Marcus Rose after the Welsh and Scottish games last season. When Rose made himself unavailable for the tour of Argentina last summer, Hare was brought back to do a staunch job in both internationals.

The irony is that if Stringer had not won a first cap as a replacement on the wing for Mike Slemen in the match against Australia, he surely would have stood down from the Wasps match last Saturday, and thus avoided pulling his hamstring. When Stringer was chosen to play against France, Hare was nominated as travelling reserve. The role of reserve now goes to Rose, who can also reflect on the ups and downs of life not always at the top.

Golf

R and A to rewrite rules for 1984

By John Hennessy
Golf Correspondent

Henry Longhurst once showed his concern for the tangled skein into which the rules of golf had degenerated by rewriting them, or at least inventing his own, brief enough for the back of a postcard. It was a serious attempt to get back to fundamentals rather than a parody of matters as they then stood.

His heart would leap today at the news that the rules are to be rewritten in a form that the average golfer will easily understand. The year 1984, full of foreboding in political terms, will see the publication of this new boon to the millions now addicted to the royal and ancient game of St Andrews.

The Americans, joint trustees with the Royal and Ancient in all matters pertaining to the rules, are the prime movers in this development. At first there was some suspicion over here at the initiative they were taking a couple of years ago, but the enthusiasm for change has crossed the Atlantic and there is now common ground that matters have got so out of hand, with a bewildering array of cross-references, that a new format is vital.

The purpose is not to change the rules but to simplify them for ready comprehension and re-present them for ready reference. A set of experimental rules was issued both here and in the United States and the favourable reaction throughout the world has given the go-ahead for a new publication.

The need for revision has been a nagging sore for decades, hence Longhurst's gesture. The rules secretary of the R & A is a full-time appointment with, in turn, a full-time secretary, much of whose time is spent in answering pleas for clarification from the remotest corners of the globe.

Even the game's most knowledgeable experts are sometimes caught out by the complexities of the rules and their attendant subsections and footnotes, adjusted from time-to-time as a formidable catalogue of case law builds up. Modern trends have added to the problems, as a famous disagreement at Wentworth a few years ago clearly showed.

The erection of an advertising hoarding to catch the eye of television on behalf of the sponsors of the matchplay championship placed an obstacle in Jack Nicklaus's way, but his claim to relief was overruled by the referee, Colonel Duncan, on the ground that the hoarding was too far away to interfere with Nicklaus's shot from a bad lie.

Nicklaus was right according to the strict letter of the law, Duncan according to the spirit of the law, or rather local rules. Nothing that the new golf lawyers can put on paper will avoid such a personality clash, but it illustrates the difficulties that modern methods and modern *mores* can cause.

Ringland's hopes recede

By David Hands

The chances of Trevor Ringland playing on Ireland's right wing in the triple crown match against Scotland in Dublin on Saturday have receded. Ringland, a student at Queen's University, Belfast, broke a bone in his left hand playing in a university colours match last Wednesday; he is due to visit a specialist this morning but is pessimistic about his prospects.

Should he drop out, Moss Finn will switch from the left to the right and Keith Crossan will win his first cap on the left wing. Crossan (Instonians) is an experienced club player, who toured South Africa with Ireland last summer and played so well that he was fancied for a cap earlier this season.

A bank official, he would maintain the Ulster representation in the side, in the continued absence through injury of the centre, David Irwin. Crossan was put on stand-by before the England-Ireland game when there was a doubt over Finn; now it seems he may replace the unlucky Ringland, whose play for Ulster earlier this season made such a good impression and earned him caps against Australia, Ireland and England.

Ankle operation for Pomphrey

Bristol lock forward Nigel Pomphrey is to have an operation on the ligaments of both ankles which could put him out of rugby for five months. The operation will be similar to the one from which John Scott, England's No 8, has just recovered and Pomphrey is arranging for the same surgeon to perform it.

He said yesterday: "I have been told not to keep putting it off, but I won't be going into hospital while Bristol are still in the John Player Cup".

Pomphrey will play for Bristol at Richmond on Saturday.

Hockey

Bureaucrats sink the Royal Navy

By Sydney Friskin

Royal Navy 0 Civil Service 1

A gallant Royal Navy team almost held out against civil servants in their annual hockey match at Portsmouth yesterday. Merely half a minute before the end Slatcher, a substitute, snatched the winning goal for Civil Service.

It was a great performance by the Navy who have not beaten Civil Service since 1970 when they won 4—1. Last year they were beaten 2—0, but Civil Service have in recent years been improving their goal average by running up tall scores against them.

The Navy have a depleted fixture list this year, because of Defence restraints, with only [illegible] matches leading up to the services' championship starting on March 8.

There was no restraint, however, about the Navy's own defence which broke up the rhythm of the Civil Service forwards with quick tackling and powerful clearances. They were not reluctant to attack themselves and came quite close to scoring a couple of times in the second half. Most of their attacks were set up on the left by May.

After they had made their second half substitution the Civil Service made a few positional changes and began to look a little more effective. Even then they could do nothing with several short corners with the Navy giving them little chance to score. In the end after Lages had been drawn out of his goal, Barrow's shot was saved near the line by Smith and Slatcher dashed him to push the ball into goal.

ROYAL NAVY.—[illegible] T Lyons, [illegible] Thistlethwaite, CPO D Smith, [illegible] P Kelleher, (RM) (sub S [illegible]), [illegible] Tibbitt, [illegible] A Gregory, LCA [illegible], [illegible] S I Hammond, [illegible], [illegible] Sparks, MEA (APP) G Mather, CPO [illegible] May.

CIVIL SERVICE: M Wilson; P Giles, I Henderson (sub C Slatcher), P King, M Lehman, G Basey, P Ellis, K Darga, C Barrow, A Mayn, E Vickery.

Umpires.—PO Allred (Royal Navy), R Wood (Combined Services).

Rackets

Experience the key for Eton

By Roy McKelvie

Eton and Tonbridge engaged in a nail-biting match in the Noel Bruce Cup at Queen's Club yesterday. Andrew Beeson and Richard Bonsor, Eton's third pair, eventually beat Christopher Cowdrey and John Spurling, the second Tonbridge pair, by 18—14, 13—16, 15—11, 4—15, 15—0, 9—15, 17—15.

Beeson and Bonsor are an established, experienced team and it was that which got them home. school only a few years back and

It may not have been the best quality rackets but as a contest it provided teh utmost fun for both players and watchers. The one service rule undoubtedly helped, though to serve a fault at 11—14 in the seventh and final game as did Spurling, or at 14—11 match point, as did Bonsor, is bordering on the criminal. Concentration lapsed in the middle of the match.

FIRST ROUND: Malvern 1 (M. W. Nicholls and P. C. Nicholls) beat Harrow V (A. P. Scratchley and J. O. Green) 15—4, 15—4, 15—2, 18—5.

SECOND ROUND: Eton III (A. N. W. Beeson and R. A. Bonsor) beat Tonbridge II (J. C. Spurling and C. S. owdrey) 18—14, 13—16, 15—11, 4—15, 15—0, 9—15, 17—15.

Squash rackets

Seeing dazzling geometry through a glass nightly

By Rex Bellamy

It used to seem improbable, even ridiculous, that squash could be viewed through the front wall or a side wall. This season it is happening in Britain, which suggests that the television technicians at last have a chance to capture the exciting intimacy of a game that has a spectacular visual impact when looked squarely in the eye.

Most "show" courts provide the traditional viewing positions from above and behind the players. In recent years the introduction of glass back walls has lowered sightlines to the players' rumps and given spectators an education in technique: notably the craft of digging the ball out of the back corners. Now the dazzling geometry of this arduous game is to be more fully exposed.

The erection of a glass side wall at Walton Hall, near Wakefield, was convenient for a second successful experiment with another innovation, "Supa-squash", a condensed, dramatized form of the game designed for television. It consists of 20 minutes of continuous play with American scoring (the winner of every rally scoring a point).

In terms of walls, the next logical development is the giant fish tank of a court to be put up on the stage of the Chichester Festival Theatre for the last three rounds of the Patrick Tournament to be played from March 17 to 24. Spectators will see the play through the back wall and the two side walls

This is, in any case, the most entertaining phase of the British professional season. In the next seven weeks there will be five men's events with first prizes ranging from £2,000 to £4,000. Those tournaments will be the Lookers Masters at Prestwich and (for the quarter-final round) Bradford; the International Squash Players' Association championship, to be sponsored by Thorntons at Sheffield; the McEwan's Lager championship at Stockton; the Patrick Festival at Chichester; and finally the Audi-sponsored British open championships at Bromley. The Chichester and Bromley promotions will be embellished by women's tournaments

Boxing

Leonard clips the wings from Finch

Reno, Nevada, Feb. 16.—Sugar Ray Leonard had little difficulty retaining his undisputed world welterweight title last night, when the referee halted his contest with another American, Bruce Finch, here after one minute and 50 seconds of the third round.

The count was started against Finch twice in the second round and once in the third round before the referee, Mills Lane, intervened to declare a technical knockout.

Finch, aged 27, the North American Boxing Federation champion and ranked number three by the World Boxing Council, fought bravely. He made only one mistake, but that was a big one—when he landed several blows on Leonard's face and body while the champion was on the ropes.

Leonard reacted violently to the second-round incident, unleashing three hooks to the stomach and a direct hit on the jaw, leaving Finch reeling in the centre of the ring.

He was knocked down but rose at eight, then stood almost immobile while Leonard launched another series of punches. He was soon down again but called on reserves of strength to find his feet and stagger to his corner.

When the bell went for the third round the little-known challenger seemed to have recovered his poise, at least while Leonard refrained from attack. But he soon succumbed again to Leonard's speed and accuracy. Finch went down for a third time and the referee rightly called a halt.

Leonard : Little difficulty

The bout, Leonard's first defence of the title he won by beating Thomas Hearns in Las Vegas last September, was the champion's 32nd victory. He has suffered only one defeat. He earned an estimated $1m, small beer compared to the $13m he is thought to have picked up for the Hearns encounter. Finch received $95,000 for his fourth defeat in a career of nearly 40 contests, many of which went unrecorded.

The stage is now set for Leonard to meet Roger Stafford, ranked number four by the WBC, which might also be considered merely a warm-up. Tentatively scheduled next would be a mandatory defence against the leading contender, the winner of the bout between Jose (Pipino) Cuevas and Chung-Jae Hwang on March 27. There could also be a contest or contests against the WBC lightweight champion, Alexis Arguello, who would move up in weight, and the undisputed middleweight king, Marvin Hagler, for which Leonard would move up in weight.—Agencies.

☐ Netroi Vorasing (Thailand) and Andy Balaba (Philippines) will meet in a 12-round contest on March 6. The winner has been promised the chance to challenge for the World Boxing Association flyweight title, the Philippine News Agency reported today. The elimination bout will be held at the Araneta Coliseum. The matchmaker, Lope Sarreal, jnr, said the winner would meet the WBA flyweight champion, Al Vellar (Mexico).

Tennis

Danes maintain S Africa ban

The $150,000 Danish indoor tennis championships were removed yesterday from the grand prix circuit by the Men's International Professional Tennis Council (MIPTC) because of Denmark's decision to ban at least three South African players.

It was the first time such action had been taken by MIPTC. The organizer said he would try to stage an alternative event from March 1 to 7, the scheduled date for the tournament.

"The grand prix status was cancelled because of the tournament's inability to guarantee that the tennis players would be selected upon merit rather than other considerations, such as politics", an MIPTC spokesman said. "We don't want to get away from accepting players based on their success in tennis tournaments. It's the only fair way to do it."

Earlier, the Danish Foreign Minister, Kjeld Olesen, was said to be standing by his decision to bar Kevin Curren, Andrew Pattison, Dave Nitton and possibly others.

The tournament organizer, Palle Christiansen, said that sport was "being used by the Government as a testing ground".—AP.

For the record

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Toronto Maple Leafs 5, Minnesota North Stars 5; Vancouver Canucks 4, Chicago Black Hawks 1; Soviet Union 6, Czechoslovakia 5.

Cycling

MILAN six-day race: Overall standings: 1, U Freuler, Switzerland and M Hidinost, Italy, 152 points; 2, G Saronni, Italy and R Pijnen, Holland, 92; 3, D Clark, Australia and N Caltanoon, Italy, 1 lap behind.

Basketball

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Denver Nuggets 143, Utah Jazz 134.

Badminton

PIJNACKER: Netherlands 0, England 7 (GB names first): N Yates beat L Coene 15—1, 15—8; M Elliott beat G Van Der Vlugt 15—11, 16—11; H Troke beat J van Beusekom 11—1, 11—3; N Tier and Yates beat R Ridder and U Santosa 17—8, 15—12; D Burden and Elliott beat F van Dongen and I Kristanto 15—9, 18—15; K Bridge and G Clark beat Van Beusekom and M Ridder 15—3, 9—15, 15—5; Clark and Tier beat R and M Ridder 17—15, 15—11.

Boxing

GLASGOW: Middleweight bout: C Malarkey (Scotland) beat E Murray (Birmingham) rtd fifth round.

Cresta run

ST MORITZ: Seniors Cup: 1, L C Ames Jnr (US) Heap 5.00 net 1.44.25; 2, R C Gowrll (US) .10, 149.61; 3, W V Latscha (Switzerland) Scr, 149.82; 4, T H Hazleriog (GB) 1.30, 151.38; 5, P Kirwan Taylor (GB) 5.00, 151.47; 6, G Nater (Switzerland) 30, 152.29.

Show jumping

Skelton turns professional

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

Nick Skelton, who smashed the British high jump record in 1978 and was one of the young British team of amateurs at the "alternative" Olympic Games at Rotterdam in 1980, is to turn professional.

The decision came after the executive committee of the British Show Jumping Association had granted Everest Double Glazing the right to register with a common name their grade A horses, in recognition of the major contribution that Everest has made to the BSJA as a sponsor of competitions and an owner of horses.

The effect is that grade A horses bearing the Everest prefix may be ridden by another professional rider, Skelton, in addition to Ted and Elizabeth Edgar, who run the Everest stud.

Skelton joins the professional ranks, even though he has only 11 points on the BSJA scale, which has previously required 25 points before a rider may turn professional

This development is bound to weaken further the concept of amateurism in the Olympic Games as far as show jumping is concerned.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Andermatt	135	280	Good	Powder	Good	Fair	4
New powder above 2,200m							
Arosa	130	200	Good	Crust	Good	Fair	-4
Powder on good base							
Courmayeur	145	275	Good	Heavy	Good	Snow	2
New snow on hard base							
Davos	140	250	Good	Varied	Good	Cloud	-4
Excellent skiing piste							
Grindelwald	15	100	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	4
Good skiing on upper slopes							
Isola 2000	110	170	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-5
New snow on firm base							
Klosters	150	230	Good	Crust	Good	Fair	-1
South-facing slopes very icy							
La Plagne	175	320	Good	Powder	Good	—	0
Some excellent soft snow							
Mürren	60	150	Fair	Varied	Good	Fine	4
South-facing slopes hard							
St Anton	140	470	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	1
Good skiing above 2,500m							
Tignes	180	220	Good	Varied	Fair	Cloud	-2
Some slopes icy							

In the above reports, supplied by the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following report has been received from a tourist board:

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
GERMANY					
Garmisch	40	120	Crust	—	-3
Berchtesgaden	20	200	Old	—	-1
Hindelang	42	200	Old	—	-3
Kleinwalsertl	100	250	Old	—	-3
Mittenwald	40	150	Old	—	0
Oberammergau	20	100	Old	—	-1
Oberstaufen	110	160	Old	—	-2
Oberstdorf	180	180	Old	—	-3

Nordic variety

Holmekollen, Norway, Feb 16.—Participation by countries such as Australia and China—competing for the first time—will bring variety to the Nordic skiing world championships starting here on Thursday.

[redacted]

هكذا من الأصل

R and A rewrite rules for 1984

Cricket

Sri Lanka becomes one of 'Big Eight' and Cook wins cap

From Richard Streeton
Colombo, Feb 16

England have given Geoff Cook, the 30-year-old Northamptonshire captain, his first cap in Sri Lanka's inaugural Test match here tomorrow. It is a notable occasion for cricket and Sri Lanka as they become the eighth Test playing country in history. Cook has thoroughly earned his selection which, in its own way, could have significant implications for the English game.

There is little doubt that Cook would be a strong candidate to lead England in Australia next October if he can establish himself as Boycott's successor as an opening batsman. Fletcher, who will be 38 next autumn, was recalled specifically to lead the touring team in India. It was never a definite possibility that the selectors would think of him in terms as captain in Australia if a younger candidate for the job was in the side.

Cook and Willis are virtually the only county captains other than Fletcher likely to be chosen by England next summer and Willis, who will then be 33, is by no means certain of touring Australia again. Cook's potential in the long term as a captain was one of the factors that helped him win the extra batting place in the touring side this winter. For a long time he was the unlucky man who missed match opportunities because of the need to keep the known Test batsmen in form.

Cook remained a cheerful and dedicated member of the side and has now forced his way into the Test team following two successive first-class hundreds and two sound performances in last weekend's one-day internationals. England have named 12 players but it was announced that Cook would definitely be playing, with another batsman or a spinner left out, depending on the final appearance of the pitch. It will, I suspect, be Gatting rather than Emburey whom is stood down. With the temperature nudging 100 degrees fahrenheit in the middle of the day England are known to want five bowlers in order to spread the burden.

England are also slightly concerned about the pitch. They were surprised to find it had been excessively watered when they had early morning nets today before going on to have lunch on the Queen Elizabeth which arrived in Colombo harbour overnight on a world cruise. The pitch was so wet that it was hard to gauge how it might behave.

Fletcher said he had never seen a Test wicket so damp the day before the match. It was possible to sink a thumb in the turf without any difficulty. The English view is that it might help the seam bowlers early on even if nobody doubts that it will take spin later.

Fletcher said that Cook had "worked hard, practised hard and trained hard and you could not ask anything more of anyone. We have got to be looking for someone to open the innings in the future and Cook merits his place". Fletcher said Cook had proved a sound dependable player over the years and would be the perfect foil to Gooch in an opening pair.

The Sri Lankans meanwhile are understood to be torn over whether to include the 18-year-old lefthander Ranatunga in their side. It was always intended that this schoolboy prodigy should be included in their 12 to gain experience of the Test match atmosphere, but nobody wants to bring him on too soon.

He batted so well at Kandy and on Sunday against England that he may have forced his way into the team. If he plays it is expected that either the all-rounder Ranasinghe, who bowls left-arm seam, or the off-spinner Kaluperuma would be the player omitted from the Sri Lankan 12.

Until this weekend Kaluperuma was felt to be an essential part of Sri Lanka's three-pronged spin attack wih D. S. de Silver, the leg-spinner, and the unrelated Ajit de Silva, who bowls slow left-arm. Kaluperuma, however, did not have a good match on saturday against England and is a negligible batsman. Remembering that Sri Lanka will want to draw this game if they cannot win it. There must be grounds for thinking that Kaluperuma will be the man left out.


Geoff Cook: forced his way into Test team

Provided England can summon their full range of skills at the end of a long, gruelling tour, they should certainly win this match, even though they will be made to work hard. The Sri Lankans have no experience of five-day matches and their batsmen's penchant for attacking strokes might let them down in the tense and emotional atmosphere that is bound to prevail.

The coming week, of course, is much an occasion for national rejoicing as a Test match. The Sri Lankan President, the Hon J. R. Jayewardene, is attending the game together with leading government ministers, cricket officials from all over the world and past Sri Lankan cricketers well remembered in England such as F. C. de Saram, Gamini Goonesena and Stanley Jayasinghe. De Saram, who scored a hundred for Oxford University against Woodfulls 1934 Australians, summed up the feelings of these former players this week when he said, "I only wish I was forty years younger".

SRI LANKA: (from) B Warnapur (captain), S Wettimuny, R L Dias, L R D Mendis, R S Madugalle, A Ranatunga, A N Ranasinghe, A L F de Mel, D S de Silva, M Gunatilleke, G R A de Silva, L W Kaluperuma.

ENGLAND: (from) G A Gooch, G Cook, C J Tavaré, D I Gower, K W R Fletcher (captain), I T Botham, M W Gatting, J E Emburey, R W Taylor, P J W Allott, D L Underwood, R G D Willis.

Racing

Dramatist to provide true Cup test for Venture To Cognac

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

Thanks to Fulke Walwyn's decision to run Dramatist at Windsor this afternoon, instead of an alternative race at Worcester, the Fairlawne Steeplechase should be particularly informative. Without Dramatist, it would have told us nothing new about Venture To Cognac; with him in opposition, we should get a much clearer picture of the horse who is one of Fred Winter's two entries for this year's Cheltenham Gold Cup.

Venture To Cognac looked a top-class steeplechaser in the making two years ago, but then he suddenly went lame. Since then, his problem which has proved every bit as hard to cure as it was to diagnose in the first place, has restricted him to only three races. His most recent outing told us absolutely nothing other than that he was sound again because it was that controversial event at Kempton last month in which his only serious rival, Little Owl, was pulled up.

My first impression was that today's race was tailor-made to suit Dramatist. After all he will be getting 8lb from Venture given the same weight by the handicapper. However, Venture To Cognac is preferred in this instance because I believe that the distance of today's race, three miles, is likely to suit him better. Dramatist has always excelled in shorter races.

Bold Argument won over today's course and distance on New Year's Day, but neither he, nor the only other runner in the field, Fort Fox, are in the same league as Venture To Cognac or Dramatist.

Fort Fox was regarded as a possible Gold Cup winner once, but that was some while ago when he was trained in Ireland. He never really lived up to that promise and he looked only ordinary at Huntingdon six days ago, even though he did manage to scramble home.

Rodman (2.15) and Princeton (3.45) could be other winners for Fred Winter's stable at Windsor this afternoon. Unlike Venture To Cognac, who will be ridden by his owner's son, they will be ridden by John Francome. He will need every winner he can lay his hands upon, during the rest of this season, to be certain of being the leading National Hunt rider again as his nearest rival, Peter Scudamore, is riding with great gusto at present, and is not all that far adrift in the table.

Jacko looks a possible winner for Scudamore in the Abberley Handicap Steeplechase at Worcester. Jacko was far from disgraced at Leicester earlier this month when he ran creditably against such useful opponents as Moor Close, Pillager, Gritter and Roller-Coaster. His opposition this afternoon does not look nearly so testing.

Twelve months ago the Lowesmoor Steeplechase was won by Stopped but in his present rather disappointing form it is impossible to envisage him beating Rathgorman, who was so impressive when winning at Wetherby 10 days ago. Rathgorman missed a race at Newbury last Saturday only because his trainer, Michael Dickinson, considered that the ground had become too heavy.

□ Rubstic, the 1979 Aintree hero who provided Scotland's first win in the Grand National, will not be competing in the big race on April 3. "He's 13 and done enough at Aintree," his Kenwick trainer, John Leadbetter said at Sedgefield yesterday. "I've taken him out of the National, but he's very well after hunting with the Jed Forest, and will have his first race of the season in a hunter chase at Newcastle on Saturday".

□ The northern jockey Chris Grant has been passed fit to resume riding at Newcastle on Friday. Grant, stable jockey to the Bishop Auckland trainer Denys Smith, has been out of action since breaking his collarbone at Sedgefield two weeks ago.


Cheltenham Gold Cup hope Venture To Cognac has three rivals in the Fairlawne Steeplechase

Point-to-Point

Miss Pidgeon home on French Peacock

By Ian Reid

A sparkling double by Jennie Pidgeon on two of her father's horses and a shock for punters in the first men's open were the highlights of the Oxford University meeting, at Kingston Blount on Saturday.

Spartan Lace was odds-on to repeat his 1981 win in the Farmers' race, but French Peacock kept him at full stretch all the way with some spectacular leaps and eventually outstayed him on the testing going. Graham Pidgeon, delighted with his daughter's bold and skilful handling of the ten-year-old which she acquired at the end of last season, told me that French Peacock showed nothing at home. "My old hunter makes rings round him," he said.

Jennie Pidgeon completed her double in the Ladies' race with the grey Zarajeff, whose turn of foot was too much for Gypsy Inn on the run-in. Biddy Belcher's mounts finished a creditable third in each of these races, and both Ickyola and Percy Duckett look sure to win for her before long.

Those evergreen veterans Long Lane and His Last never really looked like getting to terms with Solidity, despite a last-fence blunder by the 20-1 outsider. This well-bred eight-year-old, by Ballymoss, won a novice chase from David Nicholson's yard in 1979. Enterprisingly ridden by Luigi Carenza, a carpenter by profession, for Mrs. R. E. Walker, Solidity clocked the fastest time of the day.

Last year's leading rider, Ian McKie, got off the mark when the 1981 Grand Marnier winner, Nostradamus, registered his tenth successive victory Tug, well ridden by Chris King, and Graham Pidgeon's nicely named newcomer Gatcombe Park (by Country Retreat out of Little Fortune), first and second in the maiden, look promising six-year-olds.

There were 134 runners for the Cambridgeshire Harriers' eight races at Cottenhem, where Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother's colours were carried by Queen's College in the first men's open and Upton Grey in the second.

Mackelly and Pelant Barle became the first qualifiers for the Christie's/T.K.M. Ladies' final. Starting at 2-1 on, Mackelly set a cracking pace that had the field strung out on the tacky going. Four fences from home Pelant Barle made a brave effort to get on terms, but one kick from Didi Powles sent Mackelly away again to win by 25 lengths in the fast time of 6min 23sec.

Philip Hewitt produced Gill O'Whisky, whose dam is a half-sister to Pride of Ivanhoe, looking hard and fit for the first division of the men's open, which she won easily from St Rioch's Boy and the Portman mare Morning Heather.

When Dr Grace took second place

From Richard Streeton

Like everywhere else in the workd where cricket has roots, British military and civil administrators first brought the game to the island, once described by Marco Polo, as the finest place of its size in the world. Those in the coffee business, yes, coffee was the main crop here until a disastrous leaf blight ruined business in the 1870s and tea and rubber took over, kept the game going with the first proper club formed in 1832 and the locals gradually becoming absorbed in the game.

It was Ivo Bligh's 1882-83 team who were the first reptesentative English side to play a game in Colombo, en route to Australia, a month after England's famous defeat at the Oval that inspired the *Pink un's* famous in memorium notice. They beat XVIII of All Ceylon and then resumed their voyage. Two days later their shop collided with another in the Indian Ocean and they had to return to Columbo while repairs were done and the cricketers were able to play further games.

After this the majority of English teams to Australia and New Zealand called in, with M. J. K. Smith's 1965-66 team — the first to fly all the way to Australia — became the last of the whistle stop visitors. Airline timetables made it harder to interrupt one's journey than the need of ships in bygone days to coal or refuel. The writer was with Smith's team and a very pleasant stretch of the legs the stopover made. One could well appreciate what an enjoyable interlude it must have been in the days of six week sea voyages

A comprehensive souvenir book produced this week by the Sri Lankan board contains numerous fresh anecdotes culled from old local newspapers about each of the 26 visits made by various English teams. In 1891 apparently the presence of H. M. Stanley — discoverer of Dr Livingstone — in the governor's enclosure aroused more interest than that of W. G. Grace, who was leading Lord Sheffield's team. There is an echo of the present-day, too, about the refusal of the English professionals in MCC's 1907-08 side to play in Colombo because the match was not sufficiently high. This was in March on the way from Australia and the England captain, A. D. Jones, and the amateurs in the party had to complete their team by enlisting local help from among the tea planters.

When Arthur Gilligan's 1926-27 side to India and Burma played here, Bob Wyatt scored a hundred and took a hat trick in the same game. Wyatt, who is now 80 and living in Cornwall, is understood to be the only man to have taken a hat trick in first class cricket in Sri Lanka, but such things are not easily checked. More important Wyatt is still remembered by those who have only read about his achievement. Less happily, Douglas Jardine, in 1933-34, is the only MCC captain remembered with reservations. Whatever the rights and wrongs at the time, there are references to "annoyance and snobbish behaviour" in the souvenir booklet following several incidents. These included a threat to take MCC off the field unless a section of barrackers in the crowd were removed from the ground and what Sherlock Holmes would doubtless describe as the curious affair of the damaged MCC flag, not unconnected, it seems, with the presence of a party of lunatics in the crowd from a local asylum.

Once the England touring teams to the southern hemisphere no longer paid fleeting visits, Sri Lanka relied more and more on longer visits by England sides touring India, Pakistan or the Far East and other countries, too, finally began to contribute to the game's development here.

Featherstone surprise

Norman Featherstone, who had been suggested as the next captain of Glamorgan, has told the county that he will not be returning to Britain this summer. Featherstone, who joined Glamorgan from Middlesex in 1980, has accepted a directorship of the company for whom he works in South Africa.

Glamorgan now have a problem over finding a successor to Malcolm Nash. They could turn to Javed Miandad, the curent captain of Pakistan, although he will be committed to his country, who are touring here from mid-June until the end of August.

□ Warickshire may soon sign Peter Hartley, aged 20, a fast bowler who plays in the Bradford league and has been recommended by the Yorkshire manager Ray Illingworth. Hartley will attend indoor nets at Edgbaston this month.

□ The former Pakistan captain Mushtaq Mohammad, is to be Staffordshire's professional next season. Mushtaq, aged 38, formerly of Northamptonshire, will also play a second season with Walsall

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Queensland 282 and 340 (K. Wessels 173). Victoria 536 for 7 declared (J. Wiener 165, G. Yallop 111 not out) and 57 for 3, match drawn. Tasmania 229 and 265 (R. Woolley 83, S. Saunders 70). South Australia 462 and 102 for 5 (W. Darling 52, Saunders 4 for 29). South Australia won by five wickets.

Edrich resigns as selector

John Edrich has resigned as a Test selector. The former Surrey and England opening batsman, who became a selector last year after the death of Ken Barrington, has done so for business reasons.

□ Western Province have moved back to the top of the Currie Cup table after beating Natal by seven wickets in Cape Town. They have 93 points, three more than Transvaal, and both teams have one game to play.

CAPE TOWN: Natal 169 and 243 (M J Procter 63); Western Province 363 and 51 for 3. Western Province won by 7 wickets.
PRETORIA: Northern Transvaal 221 and 246 (V Preez 84, C Stirk 59); Eastern Province 350 for 8 dec and 14 for 3. Match drawn.

Book review

Rod and line could not beat the system

Apart from Evelyn Waugh's Boot of *The Beast*, most foreign correspondents travel light. Little more than a bowler hat and an umbrella were at one time considered necessary for visiting Englishmen to be au fait with the Quai d'Orsay press department. Most diplomatic correspondents would shun the idea of taking their golf clubs to Washington.

However, one of the great foreign correspondents of the twenties and thirties, Negley Farson of the *Chicago Daily News*, would always take his fishing rod with him wherever he went. In the Kalahari Desert or in the foothills of the Andes, it was always there, ready to be used at the first opportunity; and in the mountains of the Caucasus, in company with Alexander Wickstead, the Moscow correspondent of *The Times*, it was probably of help in keeping them both alive.

"Wickers", as Farson called him, was an unusual companion for this hard-living rumbustious American, but they seemed to get on all right together, riding horseback up the wild snow-covered mountain passes into practically unknown country.

Wickstead had gone to Russia with Quaker relief teams in 1924 and decided to stay. His book *Life Under The Soviets* and his articles for *The Times* brought him a deserved reputation. The Caucasian trip, which lasted many weeks, must have produced several *Times* turnovers, which are now, alas, buried in the files but some of the feeling of it is vividly contained in a new and lavishly-illustrated edition of Farson's book, *Going Fishing*, published by Clive Holloway Books, with wood engravings by C. F. Tunnicliffe.

They slept rough, ate grilled trout which Farson caught on a fly, much to the astonishment of the Caucasians who had never seen such a thing before, and altered their diet from time to time, when they could, by the purchase of a sheep. It says much for the ingenuity and resilience of the early generation of foreign correspondents that they knew what to do with it.

But, of course, the NKVD, or whatever acronym the secret police went under at the time, were aware of their progress, and no doubt alarmed by it. Farson records a meeting with a gentleman who gave his profession as "Instructor in Communism" who obviously disapproved a great deal of what they were up to.


Farson: posing a police problem

The Instructor particularly disapproved of fly fishing though it was doubtful whether he had ever actually seen a Greenwell's Glory or a March Brown in his life. He had, however, no hesitation. This — he told Farson — is a capitalist method of fishing. You must stop it. Here we fish the worm. Only the worm is to be trusted.

Conrad Voss Bark

Windsor programme

1.45 SLOUGH HURDLE (Selling handicap: £589: 2m 30yd) (7 runners)

101	0	LYUBIANKA (Mrs L Moore) A Moore 4-12-7	G Moore 4
103	0003	SIR GIVENCHY (Mrs J Dunlap) W Musson 4-11-10	A Coogan
104	304401	LITTLE TYRANT (C Francis) B Richmond 5-11-9 (7 ex)	P Corrigan 7
106	000000	PHEASANT BRIDGE (W Williams) J Bradley 5-11-4	P Liddicoat 7
107	0000	CAPTIVE MAIDEN (B) (J Owens) J Bradley 4-11-0	—
108	00000-	ECHENIOR (G Woollatt) P Allingham 5-11-0	J Francome
109	0800	TOBERJOVIC (T Flood) A Davison 4-11-0	—

4-5 Little Tyrant, 13-8 Sir Givenchy, 9-2 Toberjovic, 20 others.

2.15 MAGNA CARTA CHASE (Handicap: £1,380: 2m 40yd) (7)

204	11/1-	RODMAN (Mrs J Caballos) F Winter 8-11-8	J Francome
205	301024	MAJOR KNIGHT (Ld Pembroke) R Head 8-11-7	R Champion
206	0-p0211	DURHAM LAD (J Kelly) C Wildman 9-11-8 (10 ex)	—
208	213234	THE HERB (Mrs D Whigham) Mrs D Oughton 7-11-4	M Coyle 4
210	3-0001	DEVIL'S BRIG (CD) (R Shaw) R Shaw 11-11-3 (7 ex)	A Webber
214	00-0233	EXCELSIOR (Mrs H Flashman) H O'Neill 8-10-4	M Hammond 7
215	p-23330	SHACKLETONS FLIER (B) (R Shaw) R Shaw 8-10-0	P Nicholls 7

2 Rodman, 4 Durham Lad, 5 Major Knight, 13-2 Excelsior, 8 Devil's Brig, 10 The Herb, 20 Shackletons Flier.

2.45 HATCH BRIDGE HURDLE (4-y-o: £2,884: 2m 30yd) (9)

301	200223	ABO ACE (Mrs J Lawrence) M Ryan 10-10	J McLaughlin 4
302	0114	ADAM CRAIG (Mrs A Trew) M Naughton 10-10	G Bradley
305	00	DOLLYMIXTURE BOY (A Baker 'Hyde' Ltd) R Armstrong 10-10	J Snaith
306		GOLDEN BRIGADIER (A Whettam) J Old 10-10	R Champion
307	04122	HIZ (J Horgan) R Hannon 10-10	DOUBTFUL
308	03	NEPCOTE (J Horgan) R Hannon 10-10	A Turnell
309	030000	NORD HINDER (B Warburton) L Kennard 10-10	R Linley
310	0L	ONLY A SHANTY (Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin) L Kennard 10-10	J Francome
315	000000	SUPER SHOT (A Strange) L Kennard 10-10	R Dennis 7

5-2 Abo Ace, 3 Adam Craig, 4 Golden Brigadier, 13-2 Dollymixture Boy, 10 Nepcote, Only A Shanty, 12 others.

3.15 FAIRLAWNE CHASE £2,368: 3m) (4)

401	11/12-1	VENTURE TO COGNAC (D) (N Sherwood) F Winter 9-11-12	Mr O Sherwood
402	1404-10	BOLD ARGUMENT (CD) (H Price) R Blakeney 9-11-8	A Webber
405	04-2122	DRAMATIST (L Thwaites) F Walwyn 11-11-4	W Smith
407	0000-01	FORT FOX (T Naughton) M Ryan 13-11-4	A Coogan

8-11 Venture To Cognac, 13-8 Dramatist, 10 Bold Argument, 25 Fort Fox.

3.45 DON PEPPINO CHASE (novices: £1,125: 2m 40yd) (8)

502	2-03100	ROSATPURA (Mrs T Pick) D Morley 6-11-0	R Champion
508	0-24fu	CROUTON (N Capon) H Price 6-11-3	C Gwilliam 4
509	pp0p04	ICATO (K Higson) A Moore 6-11-3	G Moore 4
513	-00400	POOLE BAY (B) (S Richards) B Stevens 6-11-3	—
514	0f0000	ROOK WOOD (Mrs B Norman) R Hannon 6-11-3	A Turnell
515	104022	TEN BEARS (Air Commodore C Kunkler) T M Jones 6-11-	A Madgwick 7
518	004421	PRINCETON (B) (Lady Douglas-Pennant) F Winter 5-11-1	J Francome
519	00000-0	CHALFORD HILL (D Hill) Mrs R Lomax 5-10-8	S Keightley 4

8-13 Princeton, 7-2 Ten Bears, 8 Rosalpura, 12 Crouton, 20 Icato, 25 others.

4.15 LANGLEY HURDLE (Handicap: £1,214: 2m 30yds) (9)

603	0/0	TWO AZURE (M Motley) P Bailey 7-11-7	R Linley
604	140/34-	TY-AR-EEN (J Flynn) A Ingham 6-11-0	Steve Knight
608	0u430-0	SLIM BOY (Mrs C Williams) M Haynes 5-10-12	A Wright 7
610	000311	TUDOR ROAD (A Stoddart) L Kennard 7-10-10 (10 ex)	P Nicholls 7
614	0f0000	POLLY'S OWEN (Mrs M Barton) R Barton 7-10-7	M Floyd
616	000/00-	LORD OF MISRULE (R Selman) M Haynes 8-10-4	T Harding 7
619	1400-00	RUSSHILL (Queen Mother) F Walwyn 6-10-1	R Pusey 7
621	03004	SUPREME VISTA (F Sisson) B Richmond 9-10-0	A Webber
625	3000/00	BREATHING EXERCISE (Exors of late D Lennon) J O'Donoghue 9-10-0	A Curran 4

5-4 Tudor Road, 7-2 Supreme Vista, 11-2 Slim Boy, 6 Usshill, 16 Tow Azure, 20 Ty-Ar-Een, 25 others.

Windsor selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
1.45 Little Tyrant, 2.15 Rodman, 2.45 Abo Ace, 3.15 Venture To Cognac, 3.45 Princeton, 4.15 Tudor Road.

Worcester programme

1.30 BRANSFORD HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £690: 2½m) (24 runners)

3	0p0	BROOKS HILL LAD (K Sims) J Fox 7-11-0	S Jobar
4	0	CAMPELLO BOY (D Sidoli) W Jenks 7-11-0	R F Davies
5	0o0o	CARLEON (A Shaw) C James 6-11-0	G McCourt
6	030000-	CATHERINE BLAKE (K Lewis) 6-11-0	J Suthern
7		COLONELS BOY (P Garvey) P Garvey 8-11-0	Mr G Williams 7
8	00030-0	KING OF ACCORDA (P Amey) B Stevens 7-11-0	—
9	00	KNAPP FLIGHT (R Bailey) V Soane 8-11-0	V Soane
10	3-3f34d	LEITH HILL FLYER (O Reed) A Pitt 6-11-0	I Cox 4
11	00	MISTER PENN (Penn Group Ltd) T Forster 7-11-0	H Davies
12		MOASCAR (Miss C Mayne) J Gifford 7-11-0	R Rowe
14		PORTWAY SHANE (F R Smith) F G Smith 7-11-0	B R Davies
17	0000	SPARTAN MILL (S Ruff) J Peacock 7-11-0	G Evans 7
19	0/	YEARS AHEAD (Goymes Hire Ltd) M Tate 6-11-0	R Hyett
20	0p0-00	CAPE MANDY (A T Smith) T H Smith 5-10-12	Miss A Dare 7
21	000	COUL KANDA (C Garratt) C Miller 5-10-12	P Scudamore
22	p3000-0	FLASH FRED (E Penser) T Forster 5-10-12	—
23	3-00300	HEADSTONE (B) (Venper Ceilings) P Burgoyne 5-10-12	G McNally
24	2240	INDIAN COUNT (M Shine) W Wharton 5-10-12	S O'Neill
25	0-00004	MISS LOVE (W Love) M Tate 5-10-12	C Smith
26	00f230	PICKLED TINK (Mrs C Richards) Mrs C Richards 5-10-12	Mrs L Sheedy
27	300	STANS PRIDE (Mrs M Morgan) G H Price 5-10-12	Cecil Price 4
28	00-00f	TORPOLE (W Sturt) J Old 5-10-12	Mr A J Wilson
29	0p.	TREASURES JUBILEE (D Brereton) Mrs C Lloyd-Jones 5-10-12	Mr A Sharpe 7
31	o	SUPER SPARTAN (R Hitchcock) J Spearing 4-10-0	S Morshead

7-4 Leith Hill Flyer, 4 Indian Count, 5 Mister Penn, 6 Moascar, 8 Miss Love, 10 Stand Pride, 12 Pickled Tink, 20 others.

2.00 BRANSFORD HURDLE (Div II: novices: £690: 2½m (22)

1	00-0000	ASPEN FLARE (R Pollock) R Howe 8-11-0	M Perrett 7
2		CHARLEY CHEEK (Mrs H Dowson) F White 6-11-0	T Heath 7
3	0f0420	CULHAM (W Sheedy) W Sheedy 7-11-0	Mrs L Sheedy
4	0p	ELLENDUNE (Miss L Morrish) B Venn 10-11-0	Mr B Venn
5	0f0000	FERNSHAW (Mrs D Sykes) Miss B Sykes 7-11-0	R Crank
6	f0u	FERRARI PARKS (A Hollingsworth) A Hollingsworth 8-11-0	Mr R Woolley
8	000/	HAVE A JAR (G Turnbull) Mrs C Lloyd-Jones 7-11-0	Mr A Sharpe 7
9	0300-	JOEDES JANET (D Nugent) D Nugent 7-11-0	S Jobar
10	0000-	LAGER GIRL (M Channon) J Baker 7-11-0	John Williams
11	4204	LATE NIGHT EXTRA (Lt-Col E Phillips) K Bailey 6-11-0	A Webb
12	000-042	NORMANDY LAD (Mrs H Attwood) W Jenks 6-11-0	R F Davies
13	00300	OAKEN LAD (M Stacey) M Tate 6-11-0	R Hyett
14	f/00-00	ROELLA (N Brookes) N Brookes 8-11-0	Mr N Brookes
16	3	BROAD PRINCIPLE (A Twine) T Foster 5-10-12	H Davies
17	0-0b043	CELTIC LAUGHTER (D Molyneux) Mrs M Rimell 5-10-12	S Morshead
18	p0	DEVORAN (R Bush) J Dudgeon 5-10-12	G McCourt
21	204-040	GOLD CASTE (P Quinn) P O'Connor 5-10-12	—
22	00	LAURENCE PARSONS (C Cleary) Mrs M Rimell 5-10-12	E Woods
24	202-000	MISS JUBILEE (D Davies) K Lewis 5-10-12	S J Davies 4
27	030000	ROYAL CLASSIC (C) (R Savery) D Wintle 5-10-12	Miss A Dare 7
28	000-000	SIGN CENTRE AGAIN (M Low) M Low 5-10-12	Mr M Low 7
30	0000	STEEL TRADER (G Massey) D Nicholson 5-10-12	P Scudamore

9-4 Broad Principle, 11-4 Normandy Lad, 9-2 Late Night Extra, 6 Celtic Laughter, 10 Steel Trader, 12 Gold Caste, Laurence Parsons, 20 others.

2.30 FOREGATE CHASE (Novices: £1,169: 2½m) (18)

1	123203	PIRATE SON (C,D) (P Hampson) Mrs M Rimell 6-11-12	S Morshead
3	0-44202	ACARINE (Mrs P Harris) P Harris 6-11-5	G McCourt
7	p0000-0	BANK LAW (R Bridge) J Harris 6-11-5	J Harris 4
8	030-304	BANNORAN (Ld Vestey) D Nicholson 6-11-5	P Scudamore
9	400000-	BAZZ'S BOY (B Heywood) Mrs B Waring 6-11-5	J Suthern
11	0/0004u	BROAD LOOM (C Harvey) Mrs A Finch 6-11-5	—
13	0b00-0u	CHANCER'S LAST (D Lloyd) K Lewis 6-11-5	J Suthern
14	01-00	CO MEMBER (Mrs J Fielding) T Forster 6-11-5	H Davies
16	00-0p4b	COTTAGE RHYTHM (C Knipe) C Knipe 6-11-5	Mr A Sharpe 7
17	0p-0	DAGGERS DRAWN (D Gladwyn) G H Price 6-11-5	R Crank
19	p03234	DENTON (G Civil & Sons) W Wharton 6-11-5	S O'Neill
20	0344-00	FAIR ARTHUR (R McAlpine) W Jenks 6-11-5	R F Davies
21	0-000p2	FARMER FRED (R Blandford) M Scudamore 6-11-5	—
23	02210-0	HOODED CROW (Miss A Usborne) J Priday 6-11-5	G Jones
24	00pf/oop	KANDARA GREEN (B) (B Green) L Bridge 6-11-5	Mr M Rowley 7
25	001400	NOVUS KING (B) (M Smith & Son Ltd) M Tate 6-11-5	C Smith
27	00-400	POOLE BAY (B) (S Richards) B Stevens 6-11-5	—
29	0f00f0	ROOK WOOD (Mrs B Norman) R Hannon 6-11-5	DOUBTFUL

5-2 Pirate Son, 11-4 Co Member, 4 Acarine, 7 Farmer Fred, 10 Bannoran, Novus King, 12 Denton, 20 others.

3.00 ASTWOOD HURDLE (Handicap: £1,201: 2¼m) (20)

2	420110	KINTBURY (Miss J Gray) D Nicholson 7-12-1	—
3	41012-p	SKINFLINT (C Moorson) J Edwards 5-11-12	P Blacker
5	2-04030	BICKLEIGH BRIDGE (S Burfield) A Andrews 8-11-8	C Bourne 7
8	0100-p2	FRA MAU (C) (Miss S Griffiths) Miss S Griffiths 8-11-5	—
12	030021	LINTON (D) (Mrs S Threlfall) D Underwood 8-11-0 (10ex)	J Redmond 4
13	0b040/0	BORN TO REASON (Mrs G Poole) Mrs M Rimell 6-10-12	S Morshead
18	.023340	WILLIAM THE FIRST (C) (G Gilbert) A W Jones 7-10-7	—
20	4300-20	SEA CARGO (J Johnson) J Johnson 7-10-4	P Scudamore
24	0-p0401	VELVET BOY (H Davenport) Mrs B Sykes 8-10-1	C Brown
25	020003	ROMEVAL (M Smith & Son Ltd) M Tate 9-10-1	P Barton
26	100-000	WILTON BEACON (B Ingamells) J Harris 6-10-1	J Harris 4
27	.0221-04	MISTY GLEN (Mrs R Bradley) J Bradley 7-10-0	G Davies 4
29	000000	ASCOT AGAIN (G Smith J Czerpak) 6-10-0	G McNally
32	380-0f0	CAIRNIE (C) (Baxters Commercials) T Bill 6-10-0	P Carvill 4
34	000000	GENEROUS BID (C) (Mrs K Lloyd) S Wright 6-10-0	A O'Hagen 7
35	430-000	COLD BLOOD (Mrs T Hassell) K White 6-10-0	C Smith
40	3001-00	GLITTER BOY (W Sheedy) W Sheedy 7-10-0	Mrs L Sheedy
41	006201	MISANFIELD (R Harper) M Oliver 6-10-0	P Hobbs
42	00p000-	LIZ WOLF (H Nock) L Bridge 5-10-0	Mr M Rowley 7
43	040/p	BARNEY'S ISLAND (P Lightwood) R Juckes 8-10-0	P Carvill 4

7-2 Kintbury, 4 Linton, 9-2 Fra Mau, 6 Velvet Boy, 7 Misty Glen, 8 Misanfield, 10 Skinflint, 12 Bickleigh Bridge, 20 others.

3.30 LOEWSMOOR CHASE (£1,938: 2m) (5)

2	03044f	GAMBLING PRINCE (CD) (Mrs G Jones) Mrs G Jones 9-12-3	P Scudamore
3	04-3111	RATHGORMAN (CD) (J Lilley) M Dickinson 10-12-3	K Whyte
4	13-4410	STOPPED (CD) (T Ludlow) F Winter 10-12-3	B De Haan
7	4-00140	BALLYBUTLER (D) (Mrs V Bishop) V Bishop 10-11-9	Mr C Crozier
8	000p-p4	ROSE LEE (J Needham) J Needham 8-11-9	P Dever 7

4-11 Rathgorman, 6 Stopped, 10 Ballybutler, 12 Gambling Prince, 16 Rose Lee.

4.0 ABBERLEY CHASE (Handicap: £1,513: 3m) (14)

5	mb02p	PILOT OFFICER (R PAdmore) Mrs M Rimell 7-11-7	S Morshead
7	f1u14-0	BRIDGE ASH (C) (J Johnson) J Johnson 9-11-4	J Suthern
9	1/00-03	JACKO (CD) (R R Alden & Son) D Nicholson 10-11-2	P Scudamore
10	120004	CHINA COTTAGE (DB) (B Pepplatt) P Bailey 9-17-2	Mr A J Wilson
13	02-4423	SILENT BURN (D) (R Aird) T Forster 11-11-0	H Davies
14	0040-03	CEDOR'S DAUGHTER (D) (Miss S Griffiths) Miss S Griffiths 11-10-11	P Carvill 4
20	02-3440	SNOW BUCK (B Jenks) W Jenks 9-10-8	R F Davies
25	0f0-000	GALLOPING BUTLER (B) (S Sainsbury) T Forster 7-10-4	—
26	f3p-0f	BONUM OMEN (L Thwaites) F Walwyn 8-10-3	K Mooney
27	0-34040	WOODHAM (CD,B) (R J Developments) J Old 12-10-2	C Candy
30	00031/p	BOBETTE (CD) (R Broomhall) M Delahooke 10-10-0	G Jones
31	0p32-p4	FOXWELL (Mrs S Pearson) Mrs S Pearson 8-10-0	C Astbury
32	0f43pp	MULLABODEN (H Gould) J Fox 7-10-0	S Jobar
33	0pppp-0	VULORY'S KID (A Perrins) K White 11-10-0	T Heath 7

11-4 Jacko, 7-2 Silent Burn, 9-2 Pilot Officer, 6 China Cottage, 8 Cedor's Daughter, 10 Bridge Ash, 12 Snow Buck, 20 others.

4.30 BRANSFORD HURDLE (Div III: novices: £690: 2½m) (25)

1	0041	PALMYRA-COURT (C Bowden) J Baker 6-11-10	John Williams
3	0	BARRON'S LEAP (R Phelan) J Fox 8-11-0	Mr S Bush 7
6	000	BEECHES VIEW (N Leggett) J Gifford 7-11-0	R Rowe
7	0000-00	BRING ME WINE (B Ingamells) J Harris 6-11-0	J Harris 4
8	000-000	CELTIC TUDOR (D Smith) F G Smith 6-11-0	Mr D Smith
10	0p	COB NUT (W Tustin) Mrs M Rimell 6-11-0	T Heath 7
11	0000-02	DARGAI (Maj J Urquhart) T Forster 6-11-0	H Davies
12	343-000	DOCTOR RITZ (H Poole) H Poole 7-11-0	P Barton
13	00	ELROY (D Squire) P Ransom 6-11-0	B R Davies
17	00f0	KERRYJACK (J Fisher) F Walwyn 6-11-0	K Mooney
20	0p430-	MALEW (W Kelly) D Wilson 8-11-0	K Caplan 7
21	022-030	NEW NOTE (L Waring) L Waring 7-11-0	S Keightley 4
24		ROBERT BLAKE (D Lloyd) K Lewis 7-110	J Suthern
25	0000	SHOA (J Yarnold) R Hartop 7-11-0	M Floyd
26	/020-40	WEALTH O'WILTSHIRE (M Evans) R Blakeney 6-11-0	P Leach
27	02-0420	BOLD TREATY (R Morris) R Morris 5-10-12	F Morris
29	00-	CHICASTAN (M Davies) M Davies 5-10-12	M Brisbourne
30	0-00000	JOLLY RED (J Smith) F Yardley 5-10-12	C Smith
31	400-	LEDBURY LAD (M Wilesmith) M Wilesmith 5-10-12	P Carvill 4
32	0	LE SARTHOIS (Mrs S Davenport) Mrs S Davenport 5-10-12	P Blacker
34	0p-p0	PIXELATED (J Butcher) J Bradley 5-10-12	G Davies 4
35	000	ROYAL MERE (Sir J Hanmer) Mrs M Rimell 5-10-12	S Morshead
38	.0000	SWARM (Mrs P Harris) P Harris 5-10-12	G McCourt
39	0-000	TANGLO (T Richards) D H Jones 5-10-12	C Seaward 4
40	0000	TEAPOT HALL (J Taylor) C Miller 5-10-12	R F Davies

5-2 Dargai, 3 Palmyra Court, 4 New Note, 6 Bold Treaty, 8 Cob Nut, 10 Royal Mere, 12 Wealth O'Wiltshire, 20 others.

Worcester selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
1.30 Leith Hill Flyer, 2.0 Broad Principle, 2.30 Acarine, 3.0 Linton, 3.30 Rathgorman, 4.0 Jacko, 4.30 Palmyra Court.

Newton Abbot results

Going: heavy

12.45 (12.47) SADDLE TOR CHASE (Div I: novice hunters: £605: 2m 5f)
PIPING REED b g by Cintrist-Cardodette (Mrs F Salter) 10-11-7 W Williams (5-2 jt fav) 1
Ashford Ditton .... C Down (9-2) 2
Brewster II .... J Pocock (5-2 jt fav) 3
TOTE: Win 37p; places 17p, 11p, 14p. Dual F: £1.30. CSF: £1.45. Mrs F Seller, at Seaton. 2l, 2l. Court Land (11-1) 4th. 12 ran. After a stewards' inquiry, Brewster II, who finished second, was placed third.

1.15 (1.20) SADDLE TOR CHASE (Div II: novice hunters: £601: 2m 5f)
FRIVOLITY b g by Free Boy-Miss Hilarity (Mrs R Fell (9-4 fav) 1
Applejo .... Mrs S Cowley (9-1) 2
Tango Shandy .... W Kitlow (15-2) 3
TOTE: Win 35p; places 11p, 36p, 51p. Dual F: 85p. CSF: £2.34. Mrs R Fell, at Plymouth. Sh hd, 2½l. Happy Klondyke (13-2) 4th. 12 ran.

1.45 (1.47) CHINKWELL TOR HURDLE (4-y-o novices: £923: 2m 150yd)
GYMER ch g by Crowned Prince-Anadyomene (W Sleeman) S G Knight (4-1) 1
Edgedale .... C Brown (3-1 fav) 2
Don Tomy .... L Bloomfield (12-1) 3
TOTE: win: 80p; places: 22p, 18p, 62p. Dual f: 57p; CSF: £1.84. W Sleeman, at St Austell. 15l, 8l. Cambray Lad (12-1) 4th. 14 ran. NRs Glacier Bay & Milan Road

2.15 (2.17) CORNDON TOR CHASE (Novices: £2,382: 2m 150yd)
AUTOWAY ch g by Astal-Sam's Daisy (R Braune) 9 11 3 S G Knight (25-1) 1
Run Hard .... Steve Knight (4-6 fav) 2
Ballacorey .... C Brown (25-1) 3
TOTE: win: £2.43; places 41p, 12p, 40p. Dual f: £1.71. CSF: £4.24. L Cottrell, at Cullompton. 4l, 6l. Tom's Little Al (4-1) 4th. 14 ran

2.45 (2.48) SADDLE TOR CHASE (Div III, £601: 2m 5f)
GREAT CRACK b g by Crackaman-Glenaminna (Mrs M Close) 13-11-10 J Mackie (5-1) 1
Neasden .... Mrs Henbrow (13-2) 2
Revel Day .... R Long (20-1) 3
TOTE: win: 47p; places: 11p, 23p, 69p. Dual F: £1.20. CSF: £3.70. Mrs M Close, at Alton. 30l, 2½l. True Member 4-1 fav. Master Straight (11-2) 4th. 10 ran. NRs: Flying Streak and Henley Fair.

3.15 (3.17) HOUND TOR HURDLE (Novices: selling £635: 2m 150yd)
MILLFIELD ROYAL b m by Royal-Most Precious (J Urch) 5-10-12 R Dennis (9-1) 1
Badesign .... J Davies (5-1) 2
Bannock Prince .... P Nicholls (14-1) 3
TOTE: win: £1.85; places: 50p, 20p, 29p. Dual F: £9.17. CSF: £25.61. M Pipe, at Wellington. 20l, 2l. Swift Step 5-2 fav. Lynwood Lady (4-1) 4th. 14 ran. Winner bought in for 1,300 gns.

3.45 (3.48) RIPPON TOR CHASE (Novices: £2,428: 3¼m 100yd)
BURROUGH HILL LAD b g by Richboy-Green Monkey (R Riley) 6-11-2 C Brown (5-2) 1
Drops O'Brandy .... P Warner (9-4) fav) 2
Genial Miles .... P Richards (20-1) 3
TOTE: win: 30p; places: 16p, 15p, 41p. Dual F: 35p. CSF: 80p. Mrs J Pitman, at Upper Lambourn. 30l, dist. Sterling Money (25-1) 4th. 15 ran. NR: Celtic Rambler.

4.15 (4.17) HAYTOR HURDLE (Div I: novices £815: 2m 150yd)
ARTAC CHARTER ch m by Smokey Rockett-Mill Court (J Frost) 5-10-3 Mr J Frost (10-1) 1
French Polly .... W Newton (20-1) 2
Recycled .... Mr P Webber (Evens Fav) 3
TOTE Win: £1.36; places: 25p, 24p, 11p. Dual Forecast: £11.45. CSF: £19.21. R Frost at Buckfastleigh. 2l, nk. Mora Lavender (5-1) 4th. 13 ran.

4.45 (4.47) HAYTOR HURDLE (Div II Novices: £791: 2m 150 yds).
RAISE THE BID b g by Auction Ring Karen Chase (T Foggarty) 5 10 10 J Suthern (7-2) 1
Athford .... John Williams (7-2) 2.
The Alderman .... Mr J. Frost (4-1) 3.
Tote win: 48p Places:- 17p 13p 15p Dual Forecast:- £1. 29 C.S.F. £1. 59 O. O'Neill at Cheltenham. 5l, 2½l Remainder Imp 11-4 Fav. 10 ran. NR Barow, Nearly Straight, & Mister Lucky.

PLACEPOT £425.

State Of Going (official) Worcester: soft, Winsor: heavy, Tomorrow: Taunton: soft, Southwell: good to soft.

Sedgefield results

Going: good to firm

1.15 (1.15) WOLSINGHAM HURDLE (Div I: novices: £345: 2m)
FAIR CITY b g by Charlottown — Fair Amanda (G Bell) 5-11-0 C Hawkins (33-1) 1
Lambwath Hall .... J A Harris (4-1) 2
Saintly Lady .... P Murphy (33-1) 3
TOTE: win, £8.25; places, £1.19, 28p, 59p. Dual F: £3.02. CSF: £14.31. F Gibson at Sheffield. 3l, 2l. Melody Moon (15-8 fav) 4th. 18 ran.

1.45 (1.48) SILVER BIRCH HURDLE (Handicap: £1,277: 2½m)
SPEED OF LIGHT ch g by Laser Light — Herality (B Stamper) 7-10-4 C Pimlott (33-1) 1
Peter the Butcher .... C Hawkins (15-2) 2
Systems Analysis .... J A Harris (5-1 fav) 3
TOTE: win, £4.40; places, 92p, 32p, 19p, 78p. Dual F: Winner or 2nd with any other 27p. CSF: £28.83. Tricast: £137.12. A Smith, at Beverley. 3l, 4l, 3l. Sunlit River (20-1) 4th. 22 ran.

2.15 (2.16) SOUTH SHIELDS CHASE (Handicap: £1,203: 2m)
SEA MERCHANT b g by Idiot's Delight — Seasall (T P M McDonagh Eng Ltd) 5-10-2 R Lamb (11-8 fav) 1
Percipient .... R Barry (9-2) 2
Miss Wood .... M Pepper (16-1) 3
TOTE: win, 25p; places, 19p, 14p, 16p. Dual F: £1.26. CSF: 78. W A Stephenson, at Bishop Auckland. 4l, ½l. Avalanche (20-1) 4th. 8 ran. NRs Big Ginger, Dear Remus, Linalee.

2.45 (2.48) HORDEN CHASE (Handicap: £979: 2½m)
RUPERTINO, ch g, by Saucy Kit — Miss Kilmansegg (Mrs B Heaton) 7 10 0 M Elliott (7-2) 1
Swift Albany .... M Pepper (11-4 jt fav) 2
Easby Gold .... C Hawkins (11-4 jt fav) 3
TOTE Win: 57p Places 22p 12p 10p Dual forecast 63p CSF: £1.90. E Owen at Denbigh. 2l, ½l. Direct Line (4-1) 4th. 8 ran.

3.15 (3.16) MARDEN CHASE (Div I novices: £959: 3m 600yd)
NICKY TAM b g by Hamood — Oldstead (Mrs J. Pringle) 9-11-12 C. Pimlott (33-1) 1
Twilight .... Earnshaw (7-2) 2
Ballygore .... Lamb (4-1) 3
TOTE: Win, £2.22; places, 59p, 10p, 33p. Dual F: winner or second with any other horse: 18p. CSF: £14.19. A. Scott at Wooperton. 6l, 2l. Kilkea (2-1 fav) Mount Allee (10-1) 4th.
NR: Patient Knight.

3.45 (3.45) MARDEN CHASE (Div II: Novices: £957: 3m 600yd)
ASHLEY HOUSE b g. by Fidel — Vickar's Pride (J. McLoughlin) 8 11 2 R. Earnshaw (1-2 fav) 1
Princess Tekan .... Mr H. J. Gill (15-2) 2
Inkerman .... Maj H. Baillie (10-1) 3
TOTE Win: 17p. Places: 13p, 12p, 32p. Dual f 36p. CSF 48p. M. Dickinson at Harewood. 4l, dist. Regal Roots (16-1) 4th. 11 ran

4.15 (4.16) RYHOPE HURDLE (4-y-o novices: £345: 2m)
AZAAM b c by Mummy's Pet — Emperor Star (R Fisher) 11 0 D Goulding (4-1) 1
Naif .... C Hawkins (5-1) 2
Sausolito .... Mr T Easterby (5-4 fav) 3
TOTE: Win, 49p: Places: 17p, 28p, 10p. Dual F: 90p. CSF: £2.53. R Fisher at Ulverston. 2l, 6l. Place Concorde (8-1) 4th. 18 ran.

4.45 (4.45) WOLSINGHAM HURDLE (div II: Novices £345: 2m
MASTER SEAL b g by Privy Seal — Vulcilla (A. Dickinson) 8 10 7 J. Davies (2-1 fav) 1
Lex Kelly .... G. Bradley (9-1) 2
Aragen .... N. Balmer (33-1) 3
TOTE Win: 28p places: 30p, 10p, 48p. Dual f: £3.38. CSF: £2.15. M. Dickinson at Harewood. 8l, 20l. Starshot (8-1) 4th. 16 ran. NR: Wise Man, W Six Times

Placepot: Win £24.45

Towcester

Going: Good to Soft

1.00 (1.4) HULCOTE CHASE (Div I: novices: £1,615: 2m 50yds)
SPINNING SAINT, (Mr N. Babbage, Evens Fav.) 1
Gerby .... (5-2) 2
Just Peep .... (100-1) 3
TOTE: Win 14p; places: 15p, 10p, 80p. Dual fcst: 17p. CSF: 38p. Mrs M. Babbage. 10l, 12l. Paddy's Taxi (66-1) 4th. 9 ran. NR Hypnotherapist.

1.30 (1.34) ALDERTON HURDLE (Div I: novices: £552: 2m)
MY BOY JACK, (P. Scudamore, 3-1) 1
Care .... (10-1) 2
Orchid Bay .... (15-2 fav) 3
TOTE: Win 40p; places: 25p, 19p, 20p. Dual fcst: £1.19. CSF: £3.68. D. Nicholson. ¾l, 10l. New Continent (4-1) 4th. 16 ran.

2.0 (2.2) SILVERSTONE HURDLE (Selling: £503: 2m)
MAURICE'S TIP, (J. Francome, 7-4 fav) 1
Melford Mist .... (12-1) 2
Lowndes Court .... (12-1) 3
TOTE: Win 25p; places: 15p, 23p, 31p. Dual fcst: 46p. CSF: £2.47. J. Jenkins. 10l, ¾l. Mr Money Bags (8-1) 4th. 15 ran.

2.30 (2.33) ROY MANGAN CHASE (Maiden hunters: £452; 2m 5½f)
ROYAL DUST .... Mr R Mann (5-2 Fav) 1
Miss Friday .... (11-2) 2
Amharic .... (33-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 28p; places, 15p, 14p, 79p. Dual F: 87p. CSF: £1.72. Mrs E Cockburn. 6l, 2½l. Hammer Head (9-2) 4th. 18 ran.

3.0 (3.5) PARK HALL HURDLE (Handicap: £1,306; 2m 5f 28yd)
FOSSEWAY FROLIC .... M Brennan (33-1) 1
Belfino .... (25-1) 2
Vascar .... (7-2 Fav) 3
TOTE: Win, £1.78; places, 30p, 73p, 19p, 14p. Dual F: £32.18. CSF: £63.32. Tricast: £332.06. J Harris. 1l, 2½l. Price Review (9-1) 4th. 21 ran.

3.30 (3.33) HULCOTE CHASE (Div II: novices: £1,615: 2m 50yd)
KILLER SHARK .... J Francome (3-1) 1
Virgin Soldier .... (8-1) 2
Weavers Loom .... (7-4 Fav) 3
TOTE: Win, 49p, places, 21p, 15p, 10p. Dual F: 80p. CSF: £2.13. G Pritchard-Gordon. 3l, 8l. Oxford Lane (33-1) 4th. 9 ran.

4.0 (4.1) SHUTLANGER CHASE (Handicap: £1,343; 3m 190yd)
OUR LAURIE .... (J. Francome, 16-1) 1
Tamberu .... (12-1) 2
Monty Python .... (10-1) 3
TOTE: Win, £1.89; places, 49p, 32p, 19p. Dual Forecast: £8.40. CSF £19.35. T. Forster. ¾l, 7l. Norton Place, Bright Beacon, Uther Pendragon (4th) jt fav. 8 ran.

4.30 (4.35) ALDERTON HURDLE (Div II: Novices; £552: 2m)
BRANDING IRON .... (B. Reilly, 9-4 fav) 1
Hasty Storm .... (5-2) 2
Irish Glora .... (33-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 37p; places, 22p, 13p, £10.11. Dual Forecast: 64p. CSF 87p. L Balding. 6l, 15l. Fitzherbert (7-2) 4th. 18 ran.
PLACEPOT: £8.20.

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The overseas office of the Australian Wool Corporation, one of Australia's largest statutory bodies, is looking for a bright, energetic Secretary/Assistant to work in their small, busy department for 7 months whilst their permanent secretary is on secondment in Australia.

This is a varied and interesting position for a person able to organise their own work during the frequent absences of the Manager. Responsibilities include the full range of secretarial duties combined with a significant administrative role handling accounts, dealing with correspondence, liaising with the industry etc.

The successful applicant must, therefore, be an experienced secretary (minimum age of 30) with a mature and flexible approach to work. Reasonable fluency in French would be desirable and German would also be an advantage.

Starting salary is in the region of £6,250 per annum, and company benefits are in line with good modern practice.

If you are interested, please telephone Hilary Smith on 01-930 7300 ext. 256 or write giving full details of qualifications and experience to:–

Australian Wool Corporation,
Wool House,
Carlton Gardens,
London SW1Y 5AE.





PERSONAL SECRETARY

The Central Office of Information has a Personal Secretary vacancy to the Assistant Controller (Overseas). The COI is the Government's publicity agency and the job offers the chance to do interesting and responsible work. There are opportunities for promotion in both the administrative and publicity fields.
Minimum qualifications: typing 30 wpm; shorthand 100 wpm or audio typing ability to transcribe a 360 word tape in 20 minutes. GCE 'O' level passes (or equivalent) in English language and two other academic subjects and/or good secretarial experience. Starting pay is £5,529 to £5,824 a year depending on experience, rising to a maximum of £6,446. There are proficiency payments for technical qualifications above the minimum up to £970 per year. Pay is due for review on 1 April 1982; non contributory pension scheme and 4 weeks holiday plus 10½ days public and privilege holidays a year.
Ring Barbara Weighill on 01-583 5744 ext. 258 for an application form quoting reference number 013/NC/81. Closing date for the return of completed application forms is 10 March 1982.



SECRETARY TO DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT

Well educated Secretary (preferably graduate) required for Director of Corporate Development for Hilton hotels in Europe, Africa and West Asia, based in the UK Co-Ordination Office in London. Age 22-28. Good shorthand and typing. Some figure work. Knowledge of German and French an asset.

Applicants should apply in writing with up-to-date CV to:

Mr Robin Spearman
Director of Personnel and Training
Hilton International Co.
212-224 Shaftesbury Avenue
London WC2H 3EQ

PA TO OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

We are an expanding NW London company involved in the energy industry. We require a PA for our operations director. The successful applicant will have been educated to degree or equivalent level and have proven secretarial skills. This is a high level job offering varied and demanding work and is unlikely to suit anyone under the age of 25. The job location will be in our head office in Harrow. Salary £8,000 negotiable + BUPA and pension.

For further details please write to Diana Bagnall, Pasco Engineering Ltd., 118-122 College Road, Harrow, Middx.

SECRETARY/PA

SW1 To £9,500

Our client, a subsidiary of a US organisation, seeks an experienced Secretary, aged 25-45, possessing excellent office organisational and secretarial skills to act as both secretary and PA for their MD and small management team. Initiative, self-motivation and efficiency are prerequisites as are appearance and manner.
To apply please write enclosing C.V. and quoting Ref. 5771 to:
M. J. R. Chapman, Lloyd Chapman Associates,
123 New Bond Street, London W1Y 0HR

Experienced Secretary

Required for interesting international medical consultancy practice in Harley Street, involving mainly Nephrology and Haemodialysis. The work involves a significant amount of administration and running the office in all aspects as well as normal medical secretarial duties. Previous medical experience an advantage but not essential. The position will suit someone of an independent, cheerful nature with a sense of humour. Starting salary negotiable above £6,000. Apply in writing enclosing Curriculum Vitae to Dr R. E. Crockett, 77 Harley Street, London W1. Tel 486 4742.

Personal Assistant

c. £7,000

We have 2 particularly interesting audio or shorthand vacancies offering excellent "City level" benefits. Either would keep you busy with combinations of personal, secretarial, admin. duties and an element of figure work. Telephone Senior Secretaries now and we will give you details of the one to suit you.

SENIOR SECRETARIES
Recruitment Consultants
3/6 Trump Street EC2V 8DA
01-606 1611

AUDIO S/H SECRETARY

UP TO £6,750

W1 firm urgently require a partners secretary. Someone well educated, highly adaptable and willing to get involved, with excellent administrative and secretarial skills. Hectic and confidential position with international contact.
Chris Salmon
Beavers Ltd.,
(Personnel Recruitment Bureau)
411 Oxford St. W1
01-629 6575

Helpful and Efficient?

We need someone with a natural affinity for people to undertake a secretarial ... role in our City office. You will be joining a hardworking team ... Age ...

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

La creme de la creme

Residential Property by Gareth David

A system for house sales

The days of receiving endless lists of unsuitable houses for sale or of waiting in vain for the estate agents to send a potential buyer to see your home are numbered as computerization at last reaches estate agencies.

A consortium of 11 Sussex agents have put all the properties on their books into the computer, and the man behind the project, Mr Bill Gregory, believes that within two years it will be a standard feature of estate agents' offices throughout the country.

In simple terms it means that the house buyer will not have to traipse from one agent to the next to get a reasonable selection of properties, but will be able to get a comprehensive list from just one visit.

By pooling all the properties on their books the 11 agents who make up the pilot scheme, the South East Property Agents Computer Team (TEAM) have a register of more than 3,000 properties instead of the usual 100 to 200 found normally in a single office. They have become the largest *single* marketplace in central Sussex, and in other areas agents are being quick to follow.

But for the home buyer the benefits are not confined simply to being able to pick up a comprehensive list of properties from one agent. The computer means quicker service—it is a rule in the consortium that every new property must be put on the computer within 24 hours—and more important, a better disciplined service.

Property details produced by the computer are classified and ranked in orders meaningful to the individual buyer, by locality, size, price, or whatever is the main criteria in the individual case.

It is, perhaps, slightly ironic that one of the main qualitative benefits will be improved personal service. In the case of the TEAM project in Sussex each of 130 sales negotiators in the participating firms has up-to-the-minute details at his fingertips so does not have to devote his time to paperwork and routine.

For the vendor the use of the computer means a much better chance of finding the best buyer—the person who will pay the most and complete soonest—and the fact that the details will almost immediately be relayed to all the main estate agents in that area.

This overcomes the main weakness of the conventional system—the limited catchment area served by local offices. While it remains true that most people move locally, for many home owners their "best buyer" is likely to be from another locality. Computer coverage, particularly the linking of areas when it becomes nationally adopted, means that they will be found more certainly and sooner.

So how long will it be before one can expect to find a computer terminal in every estate agent's office?

Mr Bill Gregory, the marketing director of the Property Agents Computer Team says that consortia have been formed in Kent, Avon, Gloucester and Swindon, and firmly believes that by the end of this year much of the country will be covered.

Promotion of the concept will be through commercial television channels, the first time that most agents will have used this medium, and this will, to some extent, dictate the area covered by each consortium. He believes that the whole of the TV South, Harlech, and part of the London television areas will be computerized by the end of the year, but certain other parts of the country pose more of a problem.

In the Midlands for example, the principle is more common than elsewhere, and with fierce competition among small local firms leading to reduced fees being charged, it may be hard for agents there to graps the attractions of a computer terminal in their office.

A start to organize the project nationally was made when senior partners and directors of more than 60 leading firms of estate agents from all parts of the country met in London earlier this month to form a coordinating authority, based on the principles of the Sussex scheme.

Application to join a TEAM consortia will be open to any firm of estate agents provided they work within the code of conduct laid down by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. Except in exceptional circumstances a member firm will not be allowed to withhold listing of a certain property.

Firms will pay a joining fee of about £1,000 for which they will get a feasibility study of their area, advice on the type of system to select, and staff training.

Sadly the project does not look like reducing estate agents' fees in the immediate future and although these are often a source of annoyance to some vendors, Mr Gregory points out that they are considerably below the levels charged in the United States and Europe, and firmly believes that people are pepared to pay for quality of service.

☐ Signs of a slight recovery in the housing market have appeared, with prices rising by an average of 1 per cent since October, according to a survey by the Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers.

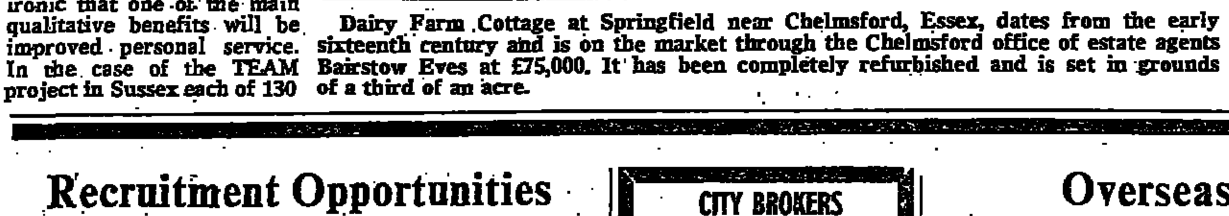
But the mini-recovery has been patchy. Actual increases only occurred in the South East, where they rose by 3 per cent and in the North East where the figure was 0.8 per cent. Prices were stationary in the West and North West, and fell slightly in the Midlands.

Nowhere have house prices recovered to the level they reached in June last year, say the ISVA. In the South East they are 2.6 per cent down, and in other regions prices are nearly 1 per cent below their summer peaks.

Last year was the second in succession when house prices failed to keep pace with inflation. In 1981 they rose nationally by only 4.5 per cent while the Retail Price Index rose by 12 per cent.

Only first-time buyer properties and mid-1930's semis showed any price buoyancy last year. The average price of an inter-war semi rose by 6.2 per cent while modernized pre-1914 terrace houses increased by 5 per cent.

☐ In Monday's commercial property column "Work place will move to an office park", Mr James Donald was incorrectly described as being a partner of estate agents Savills. Mr Donald is a partner of estate agents Strutt & Parker and his comments appeared in that firm's *Property Trends* bulletin.



Dairy Farm Cottage at Springfield near Chelmsford, Essex, dates from the early sixteenth century and is on the market through the Chelmsford office of estate agents Bairstow Eves at £75,000. It has been completely refurbished and is set in grounds of a third of an acre.

(continued on page 22)

Recruitment Opportunities

LEGAL NOTICES

Re: JOHN REID PRESENTATIONS LIMITED (In Voluntary Liquidation) and THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the CREDITORS of the above named Company are required on or before the 12th March, 1982, to send their names and addresses and particulars of their Debts or Claims to the undersigned, Bernard Phillips, F.C.A., of New Cavendish House, 18 Maltravers Street, London WC2R 3EU, the LIQUIDATOR...

BERNARD PHILLIPS
Chartered Accountant

Re: CALTON BAKERIES LIMITED and THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948.

MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL

PUBLIC NOTICES

Competition Act 1980

Anti-competition

Practise Investigation

Sheffield Newspapers Ltd.

Competition reference under section 5

The Director General of Fair Trading has published a report under section 3 of the Competition Act 1980 (the 'Act') stating that certain courses of conduct pursued by Sheffield Newspapers Director General has not accepted from Sheffield Newspapers Limited constitute anti-competitive practices and that it is appropriate for him to make a reference under section 5 of the Act. The Limited undertakings which, in his opinion, cover every course of conduct which is described in the report as constituting an anti-competitive practice. Therefore, in exercise of his powers under section 5 of the Act the Director General hereby makes a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission (the 'Commission') as follows:

(a) the person whose activities are to be investigated by the Commission is Sheffield Newspapers Limited;

(b) the goods and services to which the investigation is to extend are newspapers, the service of distributing newspapers and similar publications which consist wholly or mainly of advertisements, and advertising services in relation to the advertising of real property;

(c) the courses of conduct to be investigated are:

(i) the supply of newspapers to newsagents on the terms of clause 5(d) of Sheffield Newspapers Limited's "conditions of supply—September 1980", including any amendment to that clause effected by its letter of 24 October 1980 or its notice of 10 February 1981; and

(ii) the granting of an annual discount to estate agents of five per cent on condition that an estate agent should advertise in the Property Telegraph for at least 48 weeks out of 52.

A report on this reference is to be made within the period of six months beginning 21 December 1981.

The Commission will investigate and report on whether Sheffield Newspapers Limited have been pursuing the courses of conduct specified at (c) above at any time during the twelve months ending on 21 December 1981 and, if so, whether they amount to anti-competitive practices. If so, the Commission will also report on whether the practices operate, or might be expected to operate, against the public interest and, if so, what are the effects adverse to the public interest.

If you have any information which would help the Commission in their enquiries please write as soon as possible to:

The Secretary,
Monopolies and Mergers Commission,
New Court,
48 Carey Street,
London WC2A 2JT.

Overseas Property

Readers are strongly advised to seek legal advice before parting with any money or signing any agreement to acquire land or property overseas.

PUBLIC NOTICES

PASTORAL MEASURE 1968

CHARITY COMMISSION

PERSONAL COLUMNS

THE WORDS of a wise man's mouth are gracious. Ecclesiastes 10: 12

BIRTHS

AITKEN.—On February 15th at St Teresa's Wimbledon to Susie and Russell Aitken—a daughter.

CHAMBERLAYNE.—On February 14th at Jersey Maternity Hospital to Amy (nee Scott) and Stephen—a son, a brother for Charles.

[illegible].—On February 12th 1982, to Marilyn and Christopher—a son (Jamie Alexander Charles).

EMERY.—On February 15th 1982, to Francoise and Peter—a son (Dominic Vincent).

FITZWILLIAMS.—On February 15th in London, to Annie and Duncan—a daughter (Victoria Rose).

GIBBS.—On Valentines day, at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, to Clare and Noel—twin daughters (Chloe and Amelia).

GRANT.—On 11th February, at All Saints Hospital, Chatham, to Elizabeth (nee Dobie) and Colin—a daughter (Emma Louise).

HAYLES.—On February 9th, at Mill Road Hospital, Cambridge, to Monique (nee Collins) and Michael—a son (Nicholas).

MATHIAS.—On 12th February at The Westminster Hospital to Barbara (nee Wrubel), and Robert—a son (James David Frederick).

MAY.—On February 8th, at the West London Hospital, to Charlotte and David—a son (Alexander Veysey) a brother for [illegible].

MYERS.—On February 15th in Hong Kong, Tessa (nee Stanford-Smith) and Paul, Twin daughters.

PLUMSTEAD-COLEMAN.—On February 15th, at Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead, to Nicholas Coleman and [illegible] Plumstead—a daughter [illegible].

POPE.—On 15th February, at Louise Margaret Hospital, Aldershot, to Brony (nee Seward) and Michael—a son (James Michael Ashley).

RANDS.—On February 15th, at St Bartholomews Hospital, [illegible].

[illegible]

SALES.—On February 13th, at Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, to Anne (nee Whitmore) and Roger—a son.

STRICKER.—On February 13th to Deborah (nee Hare-scott) and Charles—a Son (Tristram Charles Barton) a brother for Morwenna.

TAYLOR.—On February 2nd to Judith (nee Tranter) and Nicholas—a daughter (Rebecca Catherine).

BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY 21st Pauline, A.P.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Sue Bradley Gravy maker extraordinaire, P.

MARRIAGES

GRAHAM : PRESTON. On Tuesday February 16th at Canterbury Registry Office. Mr N. K. T. Graham and Mrs A. Preston.

MORRIS : WOODWARD.—At Haddington, East Lothian, on Friday 12th February 1982 between Geoffrey K. Morris and Maureen Woodward.

DEATHS

BOYAGIS.—On February 15th, 1982, peacefully after a sudden and tragic illness, Nicholas George "Nico", aged 2?, elder son of John and Claudia, brother of Paula Alexander and Julia. Requiem Mass at 12 noon on Friday, February 19th, at the Church of the Holy Redeemer, Cheyne Row, Chelsea, SW3. Enquiries to J. H. Kenyon Ltd, 83 Westbourne Grove, W2. Telephone 01-229 9861.

CROW.—On February 16th, 1982, at Winchester, after a long illness, Ursula Beves, beloved sister of Geoffrey Crow and Monica Wren, sadly missed by her nephews, nieces and their children. Cremation private.

CROWE.—On 15th February 1982 unexpectedly but peacefully at home, Stanley George of Palewell Pk, East Sheen, the much loved husband of the late Mary and father of Susan Frascesca and Alison. The funeral service will take place at Christ Church, East Sheen, 11 a.m. on Friday 19th February followed by burial at East Sheen cemetery.

DE PEYER, EDITH MARY.—On February 16th, Beloved mother of Gervase, Dairdre and Adrian funeral service Thursday February 18th at Gloucester Crematorium at 12.30.

GARDNER. — On February 14, 1982, in Bridport General Hospital, Estelle Gardner, aged 88 years, of Spur Cottage, Morcombelake, Dorset, elder daughter of the late Dr Percy and Mrs Dagmar (nee Helms) Gardner, of Torquay and Ilfracombe, and beloved sister of Joan Gardner.

GARDNER.—On 14th February, 1982, Mima Elaine, wife of Ralph Gardner, of Fairfield, Tattenhall, Chester. Funeral 2 p.m. Friday, 19th February, at St. Alban's Church, Tattenhall, followed by cremation (family only) at Blacon Crematorium, Chester. Inquiries to Geo. Pettit, telephone Chester 381578.

GODFREY-FAUSSETT.—On February 13th, 1982, the Reverend Peter Godfrey-Faussett, C.B.E., aged 80, after a long illness borne with outstanding courage. Very much loved husband of Nancy and father of Hazel and Tom, loving grandfather to Anthony and Richard, Fiona, Peter, Hugo and Charles. Funeral private. Memorial Service at St Luke's Church, Chiddingstone Causeway, near Tonbridge, Kent, at 3.30 p.m. on Friday, February 26th.

H[illegible].—On February 12th, 1982, at Sutton Hospital, Surrey, after a short illness, Wilfred Stafford, aged 81, for 29 years Second Master of Emanuel School. Cremation at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, on Wednesday, February 24th, at 12 noon. Flowers to Truelove & Son, 118 Carshalton Road, Sutton.

KEMMIS.—On 13th February 1982, Mrs Winona (Jess) Kemmis of Moyaliffe Castle, Thurles County Tipperary, widow of Captain W. Kemmis M.C. Inniskilling Dragoons of Ballinacor, Rathdrum, County Wicklow & of Moyaliffe Castles Thurles. Funeral to Ballinacor Church. County Wicklow of Wednesday 17th February for burial at 3.00 in the Kemmis family vault. House Private.

LAW.—On 15th February, 1982, suddenly in his sleep, Stephen Henry Duncan, of Thimble Cottage, West Knoyle, beloved husband of Sheila, and dearly loved father of Susanna. Funeral service at The Church of St Mary the Virgin, West Knoyle, on Thursday, 18th February, at 2.15 p.m. Family flowers only.

LEE.—On February 15th 1982 peacefully in a Broadstone Nursing Home, Margaret Agnes (Madge) aged 87. Lately of Stoke Abbott, Beaminster. Wife of the late Major Ralph Trenchard Lee M.C.* and beloved mother of Deborah Gavens (Australia) and Charity Tudhope (New Zealand): a much loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Cremation private. No letters or flowers please but if desired donations for Dr Barnados may be sent to Deric-Scott, Portman Lodge Funeral Home, Boscombe, Bournemouth.

MCCLELLAND.—On Feb 15th, in Seaford after many years of suffering, most gallantly borne, Gabrielle, widow of John Coward & Ernest McClelland & dear mother of Catherine, Pamela & the late Cecil. Cremation private.

McIVER.—On 15th February in hospital, and of 43 Camberley Drive, Rochdale, John Cleland McIver, aged 71 years, beloved husband of Irene, loving father of Gordon and Keith, and founder director of J. C. McIver & Co., Ltd., of Ashton Old Road, Manchester. Service at Rochdale Crematorium, at 11.40 a.m. on Monday, 22nd February. Flowers and enquiries to Dixon's Funeral Service, telephone Rochdale 45501.

O'BRIEN (NEE WILMER) (Dublin).—On February 16th, 1982, in hospital, Kitty, dear wife of Brendan, Herbert Park, and beloved mother of Dermod and Anthony. Funeral Thursday.

PARR[illegible].—On [illegible] February, 1982, in perfect peace in her home in Portsmouth, Mary Ellen (Bunny), Parry, S.R.N., aged 79 years, formerly of Norwich and of Trewince, Cornwall. Requiem mass at St. John's Cathedral, Edinburgh Road, Portsmouth, on Thursday, 18th February, at 12.15 p.m., followed by a private cremation. Donations in her memory to the Royal National Institute for the Blind, 224 Great Portland Street, W1N 6AA, was her wish.

RIDLEY.—On February 15th, peacefully at Hilton House, Bellingham, in her [illegible] year, Agnes, daughter of the late J. W. Ridley of Park End. Service at St. Mungos Church, Simonburn, 10.15 a.m., Thursday, February 18th, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only.

RODGER.—On February 15th, at the Royal Northern Hospital, Professor Alec Rodger, aged 74 years. Funeral service at St Silas Church Penton Street, N.1. on February 22nd at 10 a.m. No flowers please, but donations may be sent to the British Heart Foundation, 57 Gloucester Place, London W.1.

ROSE.—On February 16th, 1982, peacefully in a nursing home at Bramley, nr Guildford, Surrey, Dr Beatrice Mary Rose, M.[illegible] LL.D., aged 92 years, formerly of Aberdeen and Edinburgh. Aunt of Ann Blackwell, Hugh Rose, and Biddie Engle. Service at Randall's Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, Surrey, on Monday, February 22nd at 11 a.m. All flowers and enquiries please, to Pimms Funeral Services Chartres, Mary Road, Guildford. Tel: Guildford 67334.

WEBBER.—On Friday, 12th February, 1982, after a long illness, Margaret Randall Webber [illegible] of 22 [illegible] Causeway, Cambridge. Requiem mass at Little St Mary's Church, Cambridge on Thursday, 18th February at 11.30 a.m. No flowers please, donations to Christian Aid.

DEATHS

STIASSNI, CHARLES K., 61, of Rye, New York, suddenly on February 5, 1982. Beloved husband of Christine, father of Katherine, Ernest, Margaret and Frederick.

WHITE.—On February 14th, peacefully at West Wittering, William Lambert White, D.S.C., aged 77 years, husband of the late Mary. [illegible]

WILDER.—[illegible]

WINDRAM.—[illegible]

[illegible]

MEMORIAL SERVICE

WALKER.—A Memorial Service for Phyllis Duncomb Walker will be held at St Bartholomew Parish Church, Haslemere, Surrey on Monday February 22nd at 12 noon. All friends are welcome.

IN MEMORIAM

MORTIMER.—In proud and loving memory of John Elphinstone Mortimer, [illegible] who died in action in Burma, Feb. 17, 1944.

BURKE, CHARLES [illegible] died 17th February, 1971, husband of Mary [illegible].

LONGMAN.—In memory of Walter [illegible].

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

AUCTION SALE

Office Equipment & Furniture, 421 Edgware Road, Colindale, London, NW9.

Start 1.30 pm, February 24th. Over 200 lots including typebar and IBM golfball typewriters, composers, WP & DP systems, desks, chairs and cabinets.

Send SAE for catalogue to: TBA LTD., 421 Edgware Road, London NW9 0HS. 01-200 7022.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN

Where more of your money goes on research. The campaign has one of the lowest expenses-to-income ratios of any charity, and it is the largest supporter in the UK of research into all forms of cancer. Please help with a legacy donation, interest free loan or gift "In Memoriam". Cancer Research Campaign Dept TX3, 2 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AR.

SOMEONE BLIND SAYS:

"I can't see—but that's the only difference between you and me. I run my home, bring up my family, and go out to work . . . because the RNIB gave me the right sort of guidance when I lost my sight." The work we do depends entirely on voluntary support—please help us with a donation.

ROYAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND
Room 12T
224 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6AA.

MILLER nee ROSENCRANTZ ALICE MILLER nee ROSENCRANTZ, widow, late of 7 Withy House, Globe Road, London, E.1, died at Whitechapel, E.1, on 18th January 1981. (Estate about £10,000).
NEWTON, GERALD HAYDN NEWTON, OTHERWISE GERALD NEWTON late of 9 Clayton Close, Blakenhall, Wolverhampton, died THERE on 8th January 1981. (Estate about £12,000).
OWEN, EMILY OWEN, spinster, late of Yr Hafod Old Peoples Home, Cardigan, Dyfed, died there on 25th March 1981 (Estate about £9,000).
PRIVETT, LESLIE JAMES PRIVETT, otherwise James Leslie Privett, late of 96 Avenue Road, Sandown, Isle of Wight, died there on or about 31 October 1981. (Estate about £13,500).
PROBEE, LEONARD ARTHUR PROBEE, late of 77 Albert Place Mansions, Battersea, London, S W 11, died at Battersea on 27th September 1979. (Estate about £35,000).
PROSSER, HORACE COLENSO PROSSER, otherwise HARRY PROSSER, late of 18 North Gardens, Brighton, East Sussex, died there on 1 September 1980. (Estate about £5,300).
The kin of the above-named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (B.V.), 12 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6LJ, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.

MR. JAMES LOBELLO (formerly management consultant in Teheran). Author wants to interview you for a book about Iran. Call collect. London 01-735 9586.

THEATRE ANGELS wanted for new West End hit musical.—Please phone 01-836 1902.

TREAT YOUR HOME to a Resista Carpet. See For Sale.

MARIE CURIE.—A living tribute. Please support generously by donation, "In Memorium" gift, interest free loan or bequest, the humanitarian cancer nursing, welfare and research of the Marie Curie Memorial Foundation, now in its 34th year of service to those in need.—124 Sloane Street, London SW1X 9BP.

I AM LOOKING FOR

A holiday for my son (nearly 17) from the 18.6.-31.7 in a well to do family with children of same age in order to improve his knowledge of English, important that no German is spoken. Possibilities of exchange also welcomed. Please contact Dr. J. Schwarz, c/o Admenting, Beethovenstr. 71, 6000 Frankfurt Main, Germany.

PRO ECCLESIA ET PONTIFICE

Liturgy, Catechetics, Morality, Ecumenism

A Public Meeting of

CATHOLICS CONCERNED

SATURDAY 20 FEBRUARY

from 11.00 am to 4.30 pm at The Porchester Hall, Porchester Road, London W2

Chairman: Sir John Biggs Davison MP

Please bring a packed lunch, coffee available.

STRESS and cancer

Research shows that psychological stress may be a major factor contributing to cancer.

Maybe? Although it is still controversial, there are indications of a definite link between stress and the onset of some cancers.

A great deal more research is desperately needed. Can you help to fund it? Please send your donation to:

Mental Health Foundation
Freepost 26, London W1E 3LE
President: The Rt Hon the Lord Butler: KG, CH.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP THE RED CROSS TO GO ON HELPING

[illegible]

THE BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY, DEPT. T.L., 9 GROSVENOR CRESCENT, LONDON SW1X 7EJ.

WOMEN DRIVERS Special Lloyd's insurance. Northwave 883 1210.

[illegible]

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENT

ROYAL OVER-SEAS LEAGUE, Park Place, St. James's and also at 100 Princes St., Edinburgh. [illegible]

UK HOLIDAYS

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Small country house hotel set in 30 acres of wooded parkland. Lost in richest countryside.

For those in search of Arcadian tranquillity. There are lovely walks, log fires and total peace for an idle holiday.

Discreet comfort and delectable country cooking in small licenced restaurant.

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"Egon Ronay, Good Hotel Guide & BTA Commended."

DRISCOLL HOUSE.—200 single rooms, partial board, £40 p.w. All amenities. Apply: 172 New Kent Road, London, S.E.1. 01-703 4175.

COTSWOLD.—Super farm cottages. 2/8. Most dates. Burford 2152.
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ENGLISH LAKES. Beautiful Cumbrian Hamlet with nearby river fishing. Self-catering holiday cottage sleeping 6. Apply Mossops Ambleside. 09663 3015.
LUXURY.—Narrow boats on Avon 2-8 berth up to 20% off. 609 3872.

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INSTANT FLATS, Chelsea. Luxury serviced. Mr Page. 373 3433.
PARK LANE, W1. Modern luxury block, redecorated and fully furnished. 2 rooms, kitchen + bathroom. Porterage and serviced. Suite business executive or couple on vacation. For short let 2 weeks to 3 months £275pw. Apply 01-998 7206 day, 099 05 8930 eves.
S. KEN. Gorgeous flat with garden for 3/4. CH, col TV, phone, maid £135pw. 0270 56428.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

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KENYA

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Will anyone who has written to Mrs Hammerson since the 18th January please send duplicate letter and "STOP" all cheques (as all correspondence awaiting her return was stolen in a burglary at the weekend).

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W.11. F required for large luxury ing house: own room, ch, col TV, washing machine; roof garden: £27 p.w.—01-727 [illegible] after 6.30 p.m.
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(continued on pages 20, 21)

[redacted]

هكذا من الأصل

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

6.40 Open University: Introducing Photochemistry. 7.05 The Message of Starlight. 7.30 Closedown. 9.05 For Schools, Colleges: Technical Studies: Press work. 9.38 Science Workshop. 10.00 You and Me. For four and five year olds (not Schools) (r). 10.15 Everyday Maths. 10.38 Home Economics. 11.00 Words and Pictures. 11.17 Music Arcade: Brass. 11.40 Natural Details. 12.05 Lesson 15 of a French course. 12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart. 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only: Financial Report and news headlines wih subtitles). 1.00 Pebble Mill at One. The Canon of Carlisle with a devilish recipe. 1.45 Postman Pat. A See-Saw programme for the very young (r). 2.01 For Schools, Colleges: Watch. 2.18 Near and Far. 2.40 Merry-go-Round. 3.05 Songs of Praise from All Saints Church, Crawley Down, introdued by Geoffrey Wheeler (r). 3.40 Play it Safe Safety hints for the young (r). 3.53 Regional news.

3.55 Play School. For the under fives (shown earlier on BBC 2).
4.20 Cartoon: Winsome Witch in Operation Broomswitch.
4.25 Jackanory. Prunella Scales reads part three of Bogwoppit (r).
4.40 Take Hart. Tony Hart looks at different modes of flight.
5.00 John Craven's Newsround.
5.05 Grandad. Clive Dunn returns to entrance children in his role of caretaker at Parkview Hall.
5.35 Ivor the Engine (r).
5.40 News with Richard Baker. 6.00 South East at Six. 6.25 Nationwide presented by David Dimbleby and Sue Lawley.
6.50 Rolf Harris Cartoon Time. Four flicks featuring Tom and Jerry, Barney Bear, Droopy and Bugs Bunny.
7.20 Film: The Last Hunt (1955) starring Robert Taylor and Stewart Granger. A cattle farmer is left penniless when his livelihood is stampeded by a herd of buffalo. He reluctantly joins forces with a merciless hunter in what proves to be one of the last big buffalo hunts.

9.00 News with John Humphrys.
9.25 Sportsnight introduced by Harry Carpenter. Live coverage of three heats in the long-distance (615 metres) Greyhound TV Trophy from Belle Vue, Manchester. Reporting from St Moritz, Tony Gubba brings the latest news on the World Bobsleigh Championships. There is also reports and scores from tonight's football matches.
10.25 Parkinson. His guests tonight are Hollywood veteran, James Stewart, television's nature watcher Julian Pettifer and actress Tippi Hedren.
11.23 News headlines.
11.25 Oscar Peterson — Words and Music. One of the world's foremost jazz pianists accompanied by his guests Stephane Grappelli and "Toots" Thielemans plays jazz standards. He also talks to them about their life and career. Also featuring bassist Niels Henning Pedersen and drummer Martin Drew (r).
12.10 Weather.

BBC 2

6.40 Open University: Maths: Ideas of Space. 7.05 Interdisciplinary Studies? 7.30 Symbols and Equations. 7.55 Closedown. 10.20 Gharbar A magazine programme of interest to Asian women. 10.45 Closedown. 11.00 Play School. For the under fives presented by Elizabeth Millbank and Dev Sagoo. The story is E. J. Farrington's Granny Harris's Visitors and it is read by Eileen Bell. 11.25 Closedown. 12.30 Open University: Developing Mathematical Thinking: Setting Up and Solving. 1.20 Closedown. 3.55 Landscapes of England. Part six: The Deserted Midlands: Professor W. G. Hoskins explains why the beautiful countryside between the Upper Thames and Banbury has remained unspoilt for centuries (r).

4.20 Dayan. The first of a three-part profile of the legendary Israeli (r).
5.10 Santa Maria del Popolo. A look at the different styles of this 15th C Roman church (r).
5.40 Laurel and Hardy in Dirty Work* (1933).
6.00 The Water Margin. Exploits of legendary Chinese knights (r).
6.45 The Making of Mankind. Richard Leakey investigates our distant ancestors (r).
7.35 News with subtitles.
7.40 The Master Game. Jeremy James presents the third game of the International Chess series. Competing tonight are the 1981 German champion Eric Lobron and Miguel Quinteros, the champion of Argentina. Expert analysis of the game is by Bill Hartston.
8.10 Chronicle: The Father of Pots. The story of Sir Flinders Petrie, a genius of archaeology.

9.00 M*A*S*H. The 4077th reels from the shock of Hawkeye on the wagon. His sobriety and bonhomie begins to get the staff of the field hospital down. Starring Alan Alda as Hawkeye.
9.25 Nancy Astor. Episode two: The Gentleman from Boston. The fairy tale-like beginning continues with her marriage to Robert Gould Shaw. Unbelievably her mother who had borne eleven children, had not informed her about the facts of life, which leads to Mr Shaw having a honeymoon that is certainly out of the ordinary. Lisa Harrow and Pierce Brosnan star as the newlyweds.
10.15 Out of Court. Nick Ross and Jane Walmsley with the legal news of the week.
10.45 Newsnight. The latest news from around the world. Ends at 11.35.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 For Schools: Magic for the hearing impaired. 9.47 The magic of mime with Marcel Marceau. 10.04 Obtaining oil and petrol. 10.16 French conversation. 10.38 Problems encountered in the early years of marriage. 11.02 The manufacture of steel. 11.20 How to avoid foot trouble. 11.39 The introduction of the National Health. 12.00 The Munch Bunch. Adventures with animated vegetables for the very young. 12.10 Rainbow. Learning with puppets. 12.30 Play It Again. Tony Bilbow talks to Richard Greene who chooses clips from his favourite films. 1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News. 1.30 Take the High Road. Everyday life on a highland estate. 2.00 After Noon Plus. Mary Parkinson and Kay Avila entertain the Antipodean housewife superstar, Edna Everage, on the occasion of Barry Humphries's birthday. 2.45 The Six Million Dollar Man. He is on the trail of the man who made him what he is. 3.45 Definition. A crossword quiz between Claire Rayner and Graham Stark (r).

4.15 Cartoon: Dr Snuggles.
4.20 Madabout. Michael Bentine talks to Sir Peter Scott about his search for the Loch Ness Monster.
4.45 Arthur of the Britons. King Arthur teaches one of his young followers how to look after himself (r).
5.15 Mr Merlin. Comic adventures of a wizard disguised as a manager of a garage.
5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News.
6.25 Help! Viv Taylor Gee with news of the Family Income Supplement. Not much in itself, but among other benefits it includes free school meals for the children.
6.35 Crossroads. Arthur Brownlow makes a surprising admission.
7.00 This is your Life. Eamonn Andrews with the potted biography of another bemused celebrity.
7.30 Coronation Street. Hilda Ogden thinks she knows who sent her valentine card.
8.00 Starburst. An hour-long variety show topped by Dennis (Minder) Waterman in his role of singer.

9.00 Minder. Starring George Cole and Dennis Waterman. Terry is asked by Arthur to look after his nieces's fiancee on his stag night and to get him to the church on time the following day. What Terry didn't know was that it meant shifting a consignment of porno magazines.
10.00 News
10.30 East 103rd Street. This street in New York's Spanish Harlem is the base for a documentary about a family of heroin addicts who earn money for their weakness by selling soft drugs on the street.
11.50 Barney Miller Police captain Miller has to cope with a handsome con-man whose victims are impressionable young girls and a man who thinks he is Christ returned to Earth.
12.20 Close. With Elisabeth Lutyens reading an extract from one of her favourite writers.

Candy of East 103rd Street (ITV, 10.30 pm)

● Spanish Harlem is the setting for the télé-verité documentary EAST 103rd STREET (ITV, 10.30 pm) For ten days award-winning director/cameraman Chris Menges filmed a family, with their permission and protection, from a hideout in a van and in the privacy of their apartment. What we see is a once-beautiful woman, hooked on heroin, living with a similarly addicted man and her son. They raise money for their drugs by selling 'loose joints' (marijuana) openly in the street. The fly in the family ointment the woman's daughter, Candy. She constantly berates her mother for allowing the son to take drugs. Her persistence pays off at first when the boy visits a drug counsellor but the good intentions are drowned in a sea of hopelessness with drug taking the only release.

CHOICE

The film is a depressing view of lives wasted.

● Chronicle's THE FATHER OF POTS (BBC 2, 8.10 pm) is the story of Sir Flinders Petrie who devoted his life to a study of the civilizations of Egypt and Jerusalem. The London-born archaeologist first went to Egypt in 1880 when he was 27. His mission was to disprove the prevalent theory that the building of the Great Pyramid was divinely inspired. Working on his own he debunked the claim at the same time learning the extent of the plundering undergone by the ancient tombs. To help preserve what was left he immediately began a series of archaeological digs for the Egypt Exploration Fund thus beginning a task that was to last until his death over 60 years later. His finds and his reactions to them he recorded in his diaries which are read with Jeremy Clyde as the voice of Petrie.

● DAMN NEARLY ONE OF THE GREATEST STORIES EVER TOLD (Radio 4, 3.02 pm) It concerns multi-millionaire industrialist Jack Mendecot who has an unlikely visitation from God who instructs him to seek six new commandments. These are written in Tamil on polystyrene tablets which are to be found in a bus shelter in Muswell Hill Broadway. The searcher, on his wild escapades in pursuit of his prize, arouses the suspicion of the local constabulary who pursue him with Inspector Closeau-like incompetence

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Midweek: Henry Kelly †
10.00 News.
10.02 Gardener's Question Time. Listeners' Questions.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Morning Story: "Say it isn't So" by Brian Glanville.
11.00 News.
11.05 Baker's Dozen.
12.00 News.
12.02 You and Yours.
12.27 Around the World in 25 Years with Johnny Morris. †
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play: "Damn Nearly One of the Greatest Stories ever Told" By Michael Buckland.
3.50 Zoo talk. A collection of stories from the zoo.
4.00 Beyond the Threshold. The story of the Society for Psychical Research.
4.45 Story Time: "An Old Captivity" by Nevile Shute (8).
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News and Financial Report.
6.30 My Word! †
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Checkpoint.
7.45 A Musical Evening with Thomas Allen. The opera singer in conversation.
8.45 File on 4.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 Quote . . . Unquote † Nigel Rees and guests share favourite quotations and identify others †
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "Charmed Lives" by Michael Korda (8).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News and Weather.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Your Midweek Choice Dvorak; Liszt, Beethoven, Glazunov; records. †
8.0 News.
8.05 Your Midweek Choice (continued) Ibert, Vaughan Williams, Rubbra; Records. †
9.00 News.
9.05 This Weeks Composer Dvorak; records. †
10.00 Spanish Songs, Mompou, Turina, Falla. †
10.35 Lute Recital, Gallot, Mouton. †
11.15 Enesco Chamber music recital. †
11.55 Northern Sinfonia of England Concert: Haydn, Nielsen, Walton. †
1.00 News.
1.05 Concert Hall Recital: Sammartini, Saint-Saens, Lennox Berkely, Gossec, Vaclav, Lidl. †
2.00 Music Weekly †
2.50 Jazzmen Talking Sonny Rollins in conversation with Charles Fox †
4.00 Choral Evensong from Worcester Cathedral. †
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure. †
7.00 S.S.S. Structures, Systems, Signs. Dennis Donoghue assesses the new literary criticism which has developed in France and America.
8.00 Elgar: the Apostles, Concert direct from the Royal Festival Hall, London (part 1). †
9.05 Six Continents. †
9.24 Elgar: the Apostles Concert: (part 2). †
10.30 Philip Cannon: Logos. †
11.00 News.
11.05 Hubert Parry on record. †
Medium frequency/Medium Wave as above except as follows:
7.20 Cricket: Test Match Special. VHF Only
5.55 Open University.

Vigdis Finnbogadottir: Guest of the Week (Radio 4, 2.02 pm).

Radio 2

5.00 am Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.03 pm Gloria Hunniford.† 2.00 Ed Stewart.† 4.00 David Hamilton.† 5.45 News and Sport. 6.00 John Dunn.† 8.00 Alan Dell. 8.30 The King's Collection.† 9.00 The Folk Entertainers.† 9.30 Sounds of the Sun.† 10.00 Pros and Cons. 10.30 Be My Guest. 11.00 Brian Matthew from midnight.† 1.00 am Truckers' Hour.† 2.00-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†



Charlie Chester says Be My Guest (Radio 2, 10.30 pm)

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee Travis. 2.00 pm Paul Burnett. 3.30 Steve Wright. 5.00 Peter Powell. 7.00 Radio 1 Mailbag: Phone-in on 01-580 4411. 8.00 David Jensen. 10.00 John Peel.† 12.00 Midnight Close.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648kHz 463m) at the following times GMT: 6.00 Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 7.30 Letter From London. 7.40 Book Choice. 7.45 Report on Religion. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 The King of Instruments. 8.30 Animal, Vegetable or Mineral? 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Terry Wogan's Album Time. 10.15 Classical Record Review. 10.30 The Red and the Black. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 Listening Post. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Nature Notebook. 12.25 The Farming World. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 1.30 Radio Theatre. 2.15 Report on Religion. 2.30 A Word in Edgeways. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Musician at Large. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Listening Post. 5.25 The King of Instruments. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 9.15 Marching and Waltzing. 9.30 Jazz for the Asking. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Paperback Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 The Instrument Makers. 11.30 Top Twenty. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News About Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 Listening Post. 12.45 Smash of the Day: The Navy Lark. 1.15 Outlook: News Summary. 1.45 Is Sin Out of Date? 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 Assignment. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Just a Minute. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz. Radio 3 VHF 90-92.5MHz, MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m. LBC MF 1152khz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95.8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz. World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC 1

CYMRU/WALES 11.17 am-11.40 I Ysgolion: Ffenestri. 11.40-12.05 pm I Ysgolion: Daearyddiaeth — Brazil (3). 12.57 pm-1.00 News of Wales. 2.18-2.40 I Ysgolion: Hyn O Fyd. 5.05-5.35 Grange Hill (part 13). 6.00-6.25 Wales Today. 6.50-7.20 Heddiw. 7.20-7.45 Tomos a Titw (part 7). 7.45-8.10 Dr. Who: (part 2). 8.10-9.00 The Rockford Files. 12.10 am News and Weather. SCOTLAND 12.55 pm-1.00 The Scottish News. 2.40-3.00 For Schools: Around Scotland. 6.00-6.25 Reporting Scotland. 6.50-7.20 Fanfare. 12.10 am News and weather. NORTHERN IRELAND 12.57 pm-1.00 Northern Ireland News. 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 6.00-6.25 Scene Around Six. 6.50-7.20 Campus Rock. 12.10 am News weather. ENGLAND 6.00 pm-6.25 Regional news magazines. 6.50-7.20 East – Sounds New, London and South east – Rolf Harris Cartoon Time, Midlands – Challenge: 'The Other Birmingham', North – Lifelines, North east – Coast to Coast, North west – Sit Thi Deawn, South – South sport, South west – The Music Quiz, West – RPM. 12.15 am Close.

SCOTTISH

As Thames except: 1.20 pm News. 1.30-2.00 Folk Life: Lord George-Brown. 2.45-3.45 Great Depression: Hoover Years. 5.10 Trivial Tales. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.20 Action Line. 6.30-7.00 Weir's Way: Tom Weir. 10.35 Late Call. 10.40 Scotsport Special 11.15 East 103rd Street 12.35 Closedown.

ULSTER

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.45-3.45 Great Depression. 5.15 Radio. 5.30-5.45 Good Evening Ulster. 6.00-6.35 Good Evening Ulster. 11.50 News at Bedtime, Closedown.

YORKSHIRE

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Trapper John. 5.15-5.45 Private Benjamin. 6.00-6.35 Calendar. 11.50 Jazz: With the Ronnie Scott Quartet and the John Dankworth Quintet. 12.20 am Closedown.

BORDER

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Bracken. 5.15-5.45 Radio. 6.00-6.35 Lookaround. 11.45 News. 11.48 Closedown.

HTV WEST

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45 Bracken. 3.45-4.15 History Makers: French Revolution. 4.45 Sport Billy. 5.10 Ask Oscar! 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 News. 6.30-7.00 Sing a song with me. 11.50 Amazing Years of Cinema: Clowns. 12.20 am Closedown.

HTV CYMRU/WALES

As HTV West except: 12.00-12.10 pm Ffalabalam. 4.15 Y Rheilffordd Gudd. 4.45 Mr Merlin. 5.10-5.20 Dick Tracy. 6.00 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales. 10.30 Pethau Prin. 11.15 East 103rd Street: 12.35 am Closedown.

TSW

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Trapper John. 5.15 Gus Honeybun. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30-7.00 Scene South West. 11.50 Superstar Profile: Donald Sutherland. 12.10 Postscript. 12.16 Closedown.

TVS

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Great Depression: Hoover Years. 5.15 Radio. 5.30-5.45 Coast to Coast. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.35-7.00 Crossroads. 11.50 Jazz and Blues: Dave Brubeck Quartet. 12.20 am Company, Closedown.

GRANADA

As Thames except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Mr and Mrs. 1.20 Granada Reports. 1.30 Exchange flags. 2.00 Take The High Road. 2.30 Multi-Million Viewer Audition: Viewers Join an Audition. 2.45-3.45 Great Depression: Hoover Years. 5.15-5.45 Private Benjamin. 6.00 This Is Your Right. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30-7.00 Granada Reports. 11.50 Police Surgeon. 12.20 am Closedown.

GRAMPIAN

As Thames except: Starts 9.25 am-9.30 First Thing. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Great Depression: Hoover Years. 5.15-5.45 Private Benjamin. 6.00-6.35 North Tonight. 11.50 Superstar Profile: Margot Kidder. 12.20 am News. 12.25 Closedown.

CHANNEL

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Trapper John. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.35-7.00 Ladies First. 11.50 Superstar Profile: Donald Sutherland. 12.10 am Epilogue followed by Closedown.

ANGLIA

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Trapper John. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00-6.35 About Anglia. 11.50 Love American Style. 12.15 am Big Question:

TYNE TEES

As Thames except: Starts. 9.20 am Good Word. 9.25-9.30 News. 1.20 pm News. 1.25-1.30 Where The Jobs Are. 2.45-3.45 Love Boat. 5.15-5.45 Private Benjamin. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25-7.00 Northern Life—with Tom Coyne. 11.50 Look at Bell Ringing. 11.55 Closedown.

CENTRAL

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Hagen (Chad Everett). 5.15-5.45 Radio. 6.00 Crossroads. 6.25-7.00 News. 11.50 Butlin's Grandmaster Darts. 12.20 am Replay: Night Gallery. 1.20 Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO * BLACK AND WHITE: (r) REPEAT.

Entertainments Guide

American tinned salmon recalled

By Annabel Ferriman
Health Services Correspondent

Half pound tins of salmon from the United States could be contaminated with botulism and should be returned to the retailer, the Department of Health and Social Security said yesterday.

The warnings follow two cases of botulism, one fatal, in Belgium 10 days ago from eating such salmon.

The Department, which was informed about the cases on Monday, said that the contamination occurred because the tins were faulty and that no faulty tins had yet been found in Britain.

The fault is a tear in the tin which is usually covered by the label. Other tins have since been discovered abroad with an identical defect.

The Department said yesterday: "Members of the public are advised not to use these American cans of salmon (any brand name) and to return such cans to the retailers."

Wholesalers and retailers are withdrawing the tins, and this is likely to cost them millions of pounds because as many as five million could be in circulation.

The Department emphasized that it was United States and not Canadian salmon that should be returned. The latter is not implicated.

The cans in the Belgian tragedy were canned at the Ketchycan cannery in Alaska but it is thought that the flaw will not be confined to that cannery.

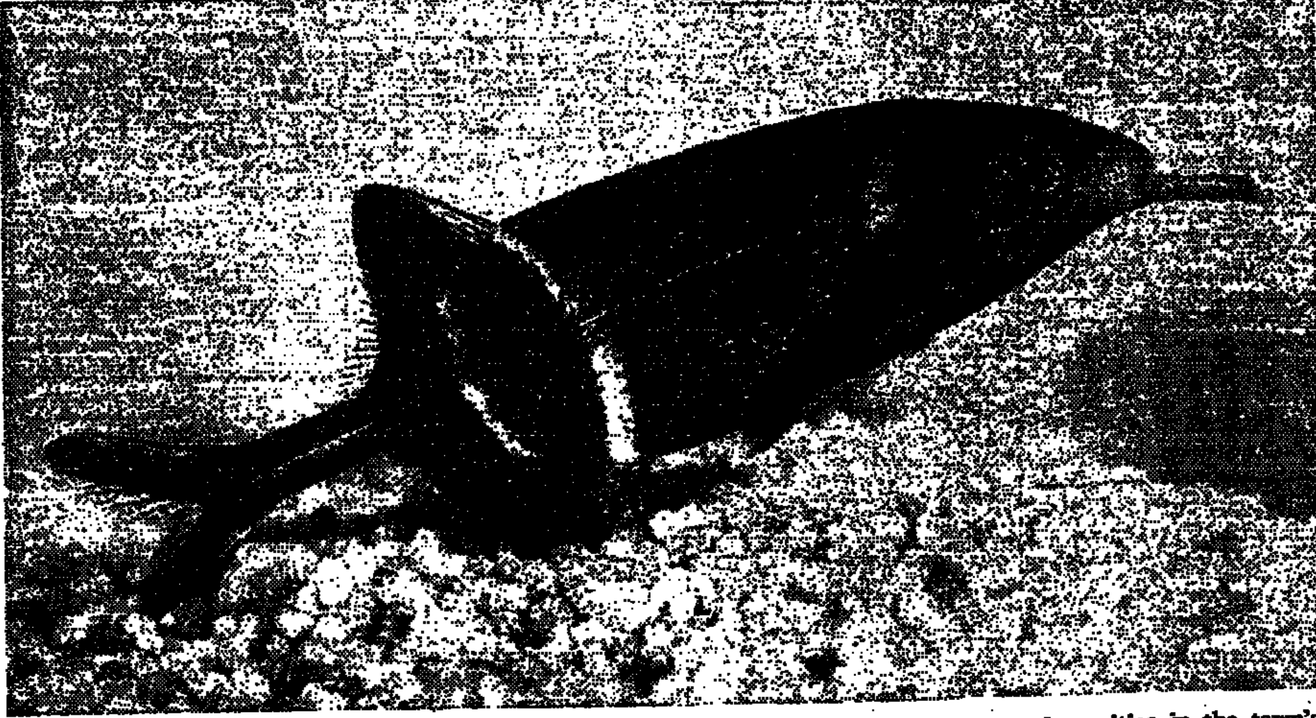
A tin of Alaskan canned salmon from another cannery killed two pensioners in Birmingham in 1978. They developed botulism, a bacterium particularly associated with salmon, after eating a tin of John West salmon.

The Food and Drug Administration, the food industry's regulatory body, is now trying to discover whether the flaw in the way the tins are made is confined to one cannery.

John West Foods Ltd, a major importer of tinned salmon, suffered severely after the 1978 cases. Unilever, its parent company, estimated that it lost £2m.

It also had to pay out an undisclosed sum in an out-of-court settlement for the two people who died and two survivors.

Botulism is a rare but extrtmely serions form of food poisoning. It affects the nerves, interferes with breathing and swallowing. It kills in about one in three cases.



Tail piece: This Nile pike is being used in Göppingen, West Germany, to keep check on impurities in the town's water supplies. As they increase, so do the vibrations of its tail which, through on electrenic circuit emit impulses.

Crack force in desert 'could be deterrent'

Continued from page 1
of using it as "cover" in order to boost its military presence in the Middle East and improve the logistical standing of the RDF.

American sources were at pains to stress here that it was unlikely that the 600 troops from the 82nd Airborne Division would or could be diverted from their role in partolling the Sinai with the multinational force to other, specifically Amtrican, military activity in the region.

They claimed that the main reason for the decision to deploy such an élite unit is to give the men experience of operating in desert conditions.

The first hint of the imminent deployment of United States paratroops in the Sinai came in a story by Mr Hirsch Goodman, Defence Correspondent of the *Jerusalem Post* and himself an exeprienced combat paratrooper.

He claimed that the unit's American commander had hoped to parachute his men and their equipment into the Sharm El Sheikh area, but the plan had been overruled by his superiors.

Some military observers are surprised at the United States decision, because the Sinai force is designed as a low-key peacekeeping body which is not expected to indulge in military combat.

Its main task will be to act as a tripwire to warn Israel or Egypt of any breaches in the 1979 peace treaty after the final Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai, in April.

ISRAEL / SINAI / Eilat / JORDAN / Aqaba / Israeli occupied / 50 miles / EGYPT / GULF OF AQABA / SAUDI ARABIA / Sharm el Sheikh / Sinafir / Tiran

Commenting on the plan today, Mr Goodman wrote: "The presence of 600 front-line American troops just hours from the Gulf States, Israel, the Nile, Sudan and Jordan, could serve to deter Soviet expansion in the region, as well as to provide a stabilizing influence."

In addition to the dominant role of the troops from the 82nd Airborne, naval facilities for the force will be provided by the Italians, the Australians will provide a 10-strong helicopter unit and the French have undertaken to man a field hospital.

A small British squad—thought to number less than 40 men—will provide logistic and administrative assistance at the two main bases, one on either side of the Sinai peninsula.

Leading article, page 11

Cabinet approve devolved government in Ulster

Continued from page 1
would be unable to function without the backing of the weighted majority.

Mr Prior's colleagues on the committee, who include two former Northern Ireland secretaries, Mr Francis Pym and Mr William Whitelaw, apparently gave general welcome to the originality of his approach and, although some reservations were expressed and a degree of scepticism evident, wished him well.

Legislation to set up the assembly will be relatively uncomplicated. It is understood that it can be achieved by amendment of the 1973 Northern Ireland Constitution Act and the 1974 Northern Ireland Act which introduced direct rule.

On the crucial question of security, Mr Prior is at present considering the idea of establishing a committee, comprising the chairmen of the various assembly committees, which would act, initially at least, in an advisory and consultative role.

Mr Prior's proposals will inevitably be resisted by a small minority of Conservative MPs at Westminster who favour full integration of Northern Ireland with the rest of Britain.

However, last night he told the Bow Group that he did not regard such an approach as realistic. It was opposed by all four of the main political parties and returning substantial powers to local authorities, which integration would involve, would immediately throw up the old difficulty of power-sharing

Mr Prior is staking the success of his new initiative on the ability of Ulster politicians to operate it for themselves.

He said: "We delude ourselves if we think we can impose anything. My aim must be much more to try to create a basic framework; to create the right conditions which will enable the parties and the politicians in Northern Ireland themselves to move towards a more settled and stable future. That is where the onus rests—on the parties in Northern Ireland."

He added: "They have enormous powert o block and wreck. But if I believe there is a chance that it could work, I want to encourage them to apply their undoubted power and ability in a more positive and constructive way. At the end of the day only they can take the necessary steps."

☐ Nominations opened for the South Belfast by-election yesterday, with the possibility of an eight or nine cornered contest and a four-way split i nthe Unionist vote. The seat was held by the Rev Robert Bradford, the Official Unionist MP who was murdered last November. He had a majority of 17,130 in a five-cornered contest at the 1979 general election when neither the Democratic Unionist Party nor the United Ulster Unionist Party stood in the constituency.

The by-election is due to take place on March 4.

Ulster jobs, page 3

Nkomo may lose Cabinet seat

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, Feb 16

Mr Joshua Nkomo said tonight he believed that Zimbabwe's ruling Zanu (PF) Party wanted him out of the coalition Government.

The veteran nationalist leader was speaking after the seizure earlier in the day of 11 companies associated with his Patriotic Front party — the first punitive action over the arms cachés crisis.

Mr Nkomo said that with the integration of former guerrillas successfully accomplished "Zanu (PF) now believes it can do everything on its own".

Asked whether the three ministers who are members of his Patriotic Front would join him if the were dismissed from the Government, he said: "We are there as Zapu (the Patriotic Front). If we are out we are out as Zapu."

With government criticism of Mr Nkomo mounting, the Cabinet met in the mornng in an atmosphere of tension. Mr Nkomo, the Minister Without Portfolio, attended what was understood to have been a stormy session which broke up without any statement.

Immediately afterwards the Central Committee of Zanu (PF) went into closed session where crucial decisious on the future of the alliance with the Patriotic Front were likely to be taken.

However, sources close to the ruling party say that there has been no discussion of excluding Mr Nkomo from the Cabinet or of scrapping the coalition.

There can be no such action, it is indicated, until after inquiries into the discovery of arms on Patriotic Front property have been completed. Investigations continued today with a police swoop on Patriotic Front offices in Salisbury where documents and files were collected.

Earlier in the day, Mr Richard Hove, Minister of Home Affairs, announced that 11 companies associated with Patriotic Front members had been declared unlawful organizations.

The activities of the companies, which include agricultural, property, hotel and investment enterprises, had been deemed likely to endanger public order, Mr Hove said.

Under the terms of the Unlawful Organizations Act, which was used by the Rhodesian Administration against Zanu and other nationalist parties, the property of the companies will be put in the hands of a liquidator. Any compensation will be at the discretion of the President.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Numeracy and literacy ...Parliament's perils

Mr John Stokes, Conservative Member for Halesowen and Stourbridge, said yesterday that, according to some report or other, most people were so innumerate they could not understand inflation. Later, Mr John Lee (Conservative, Nelson and Colne) said the Prime Minister was now favourite to win the next general election.

Could it be that there is a causal connexion between the two phenomena? Is widespread ignorance of inflation something which the Government should take action against? Since inflation is always going up, and since all recent governments appear to have fallen on the issue of inflation, there is clearly a moral dilemma here.

Mr Stokes made his point during education question time. This reminded us that it is not only Tories who have these moral dilemmas about encouraging things which would almost certainly lead to their destruction at the polls. The Labour Party has the same problem over education. At education question time, Labour Members rise one after another to demand more and more of the stuff. The more brutish the backbencher, the more menacing his demands for education—not for *himself*, of course, but for his innocent young constituents.

Yet educated people are invariably snobs. If we create more of them, they would not tolerate Labour's more primitive Members representing them in Parliament, and Parliament would be much the poorer. It would end up like the SDP. That party does have a couple of token brutes. But they defected late from the Labour benches, and they do not look at home.

Not that base considerations of party advantage animated Mr Stokes. He is one of the least base of backbenchers. With genuine impartiality, he urged "a return to the teaching of the three Rs in schools", which he thought "might be preferable to some of the more modern, progressive and trendy systems of education".

Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Education, said Mr Stokes was right to be worried. The Government would be considering the findings of the report to which Mr Stokes had referred. Tory backbenchers murmured approval. Here we arived at a cucial difference in the attitude of Labour and Tory backbenchers towards education. Labour simply believe there should be more of it about. Tories distrust the usefulness of the amounts of it that are aleady available.

Mr Timothy Brinton (Consevative, Gravesend), stepped in with a question about the decline in educational standards. For any backbencher this is always a hazardous enterprise. One grammatical goof, one infinitive awry, one metaphor mangled, and all is lost. It is impossible to depict oneself a champion of literacy if one's syntactical trousers are flapping about one's feet at the time.

Mr Brinton began confidently enough. Expenditure on education had doubled in the last 20 years, he said, more so even than that in the London area.

One knew the point he was about to make: standards not doubled . . . indeed, fallen . . . ho, ho, ho . . . how come? One had heard it often at education question time.

Alas, Mr Brinton found himself asserting: "Standards, if they have raised at all, have raised minutely". Perhaps he has trouble with the various uses of "raised" and "risen" because there was too much expenditure on *his* education. (He went to Eton.) Perhaps he has never done any work connected with literacy (He was for some years an ITN newscaster.) One feels sure there is some such humane explanation. One's heart went out to him, as the Labour benches jeered.

On to Mrs Thatcher being election favourite. The backbencher who made the point, Mr Lee, did so during rime Minister's question time. He said he got it from the bookmakers. It was a more than usually sycouhantic observation. Mrs Thatcher soberly told him: I" am grateful to the bookies." Mr Michael Foot crashed in with a demand to know why manu- to the latest figues, was the lowest for more than 14 years. This is a figure from which the Government is entirely safe since we now know that the voters are far too inumerate to grasp it. None the less, the Labour benches bayed. The mood turned rather vicious. Mrs Thatcher sad the figures were because we had just had the worst winter conditions since the 1800s. Thus, like all well brought up women, when the atmosphere threatened to become rather unpleasant, she talked about the weather.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Duke of Kent visits Telephone Manufacturing Company, Malmesbury, 10.45, later visits Westinghouse Brake and Signal Company Group, Chippenham, 2.20.

Princess Alexandra attends reception for opening of "Excavating in Egypt" exhibition to mark centenary of Egypt Exploration Society, British Museum, 6.15.

Exhibitions

Paintings by Philip Reeves, Crawford Centre for the Arts, University of St Andrew's: Mon to Sat 10 to 5. Sun 2 to 5 (until February 28).

Hurry Along Please, one hundred years of public transport in Oxfordshire, Banbury Museum: Mon to Sat 10 to 4, closed Tues (until March 27).

Paintings by Sean Scully, Arts Council Gallery, Bedford Street, Belfast; Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (until Feb 27).

A Mansion of Many Chambers: Beauty and other works, Newport Museum and Art Gallery, John Frist Square, Newport, Gwent; Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, sat 9.30 to 4, closed Suns (util March 13).

A Glimpse of the Past—local views from old photographs, Museum and Art Gallery, Stafford; Tues to Sat 10 to 5, closed Mon (until Feb 27).

The Subjective Eye, Arnolfini Gallery, New Quay, Bristol; Tues to Sat 11 to 8 (until March 27).

Paintings by Joan Painter, Grange Art Gallery and Museum, Rottingdean, Brighton; Mon to Sat 10 to 5. Sun 2 to 5, closed Wed (until March 14).

Photographer as Printmaker, Castle Museum, Nottingham; daily 10 to 4.45 (until Feb 28).

Art of the Edo Period of Japan, 1600-1868, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford; Mon to Sat 10 to 4, Sun 2 to 4 (until Feb 28).

Music

Recital by Marisa Robles, Aberdeen Art Gallery, Aberdeen, 7.30.

Talks, lectures

Air Power over Europe II: The European Air Balance in 1982, by Prof N. G. Brown, Poynting Building, University of Birmingham, 11.

Auctions today

Christie's, King Street: Medieval mortars, 11. Christie's, South Kensington: Carpets and objects of art, 10.30; English and Continental pictures, 10.30 and 2; furniture, 1; clocks and barometers, 2. Phillips, Blenheim Street: English and Continental ceramics and glass, 11. Sotheby's, Bond Street: Old Master paintings, 11; 17th, 18th and 19th century British paintings, 2.30. Sotheby's, Belgravia: Tunbridge ware and papier mache, 10.30.

Viewing

Bonhams, Montpelier Street: European oil paintings, 9 to 3; English and Continental furniture, 9 to 3. Christie's, King Street: English and Continental oak furniture, 9.15 to 4.30. Christie's, South Kensington: Furniture, 9.15 to 12; clocks and barometers, 9.15 to 12: European ceramics, 9.15 to 4.30; lead soldiers and dinky toys, 9.15 to 4.30; printed books, 9.15 to 4.30. Phillips, Blenheim Street: Furs; world postage stamps; silver and plate, all 9 to 4.30. Sotheby's, Bond Street: Silver: clocks and watches; furniture, all 9.30 to 4.30. Sotheby's, Belgravia: European ceramics, 9.30 to 4.30.

Sporting fixtures

Football: Football League, Scottish Cup and Scottish League matches (page 18).

Racing: Meetings at Worcester, 1.30 and Windsor, 1.45.

Rugby League: First division: Barrow v Bradford Northern, 7.30. Hull Kingston Rovers v Fulham, 7.30; Warrington v Leigh, 7.30.

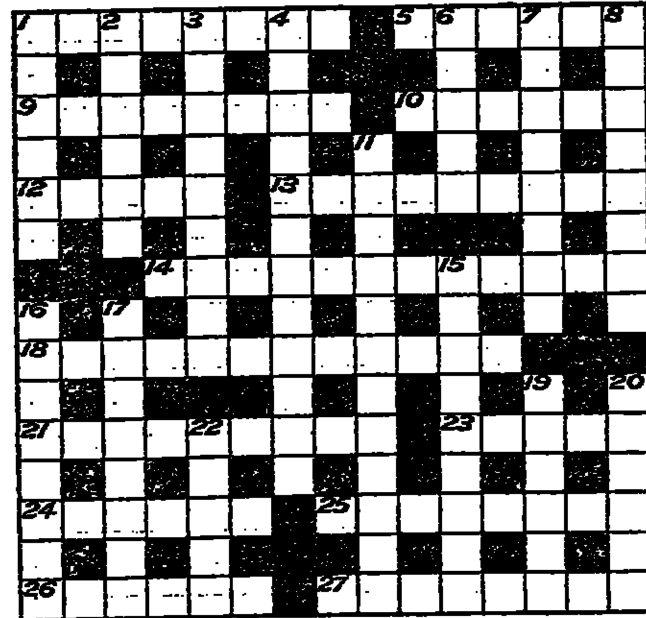
Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Canada Bill, second reading.

Lords (2.30): Debate on need for a better educated working population.

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The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,758



ACROSS
1 Seat of authority, one for master or dame perhaps (8).
5 Drinkers in county? Only in fiction (6).
9 Court in which Galsworthy wrote (8).
10 Pursue game here (6).
12 Keen to get a hearing — such a bore! (5).
13 Plant or sort of grass in perfect condition (9).
14 Game little ships do, when it's rough (5,3,4).
18 Holmes found one missing Rugby man (5-7).
21 Repetition of tea dance (3-3-3).
23 Rank condition of 19, finally (5).
24 Look thoroughly for US poet (6).
25 Youngster carries letter from Greece for monstrous Cretan (8).
26 What Donne does with one of his poems (6).
27 Interminable names guide mixed up (8).

DOWN
1 Gate that may be secured by catch (6).
2 Free 23 of this colour (6).
3 Giving little away in EEC — strive to reform it (9).
4 Integrated college in New Zealand (12).
6 Othello, say, wrongly suspected one (5).
7 One who's not late, being extremely fit? (8).
8 Composition of agreements between countries — final points switched (8).
11 Arranging trip into area you first came from (12).
15 Trim garment reduced (5,4).
16 Pertinacious advocate has second puzzling question (8).
17 Thoroughfare leading to destruction reported St Matthew (8).
19 Cook went there for fruit — excellent one (6).
20 Provocation from Pravda? (3,3).
22 Does he omit nothing for the orchestra? (5).

Solution of Puzzle No. 15,757

The Pound

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.77	1.69
Austria Sch	32.30	30.30
Belgium Fr	85.25	81.25
Canada $	2.30	2.21
Finland Mkk	8.70	8.25
France Fr	11.36	10.96
Germany DM	4.58	4.33
Greece Dr	119.00	110.00
Hongkong $	11.20	11.60
Ireland Pt	1.29	1.24
Italy Lir	2390.00	2290.00
Japan Yn	466.00	440.00
Netherlands Gld	5.01	4.75
Norway Kr	11.48	10.88
Portugal Esc	131.00	124.00
South Africa Rd	2.07	1.92
Spain Pta	193.00	184.00
Sweden Kr	11.13	10.55
Switzerland Fr	3.68	3.46
USA $	1.89	1.82
Yugoslav Dnr	101.00	94.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd.

London: The *FT* Index fell 6.9 to 557.2.

The papers

With Mitterrand's visit to Israel scheduled for next month, Le Monde warns that it is a "mistake to believe that French diplomatic circles think—as do the Israelis—that the Palestinians should remain . . . in Jordan or Transjordan".

Urging Russia to allow the Pentecostalists sheltering in the United States embassy to emigrate, the Christian Science Monitor says: "Let them go Mr Brezhnev you have nothing to lose but disdain".

Income tax leaflets

For information on tax position of pensioners, "Income Tax and Pensioners" leaflet is available from tax offices or PAYE Enquiry Offices (check phone book under Inland Revenue for nearest address).

For details of increased personal allowance for over 65s, see "Income Tax—Age Allowance" leaflet, available as above.

Phone-a-horoscope

A recorded horoscope service has been started by British Telecom on 01-246 8000 (between 6 am and 6 pm).

Our address

Information for inclusion in The Times Information Service should be sent to Cathy James, TTIS, The Times, PO Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ.

Travel

Pre-recorded travel information on Traveline—rail: 01-246 8030; road: 01-246 8031; sea: 01-246 8032; air: 01-246 8033.

Rail

Because of yesterday's Aslef strike, some early train cancellations this morning; run down of services begins this evening because of tomorrow's strike: passengers should aim to complete journeys by 10 pm. For last train times call station inquiries or Traveline (see above).

Roads

Midlands: M6: Lane closures between M68 and A426 exits. A5: Only one lane open near junction wth. A444 in Warwickshire. A5: Roadworks on Atherstone by-pass. A49: Delays on Ross Road, Hereford between Hinton Road and Holme Lacy Road.

Wales and West: A361: Partially closed W of Taunton, Somerset. A390: Delays between Callington and Redruth, temporary signals at St Blazey Gate, Cornwall. A381: Roadworks on Totnes inner relief road, Devon. A483: Roadworks at Llanbister, Powys.

North: A56: Roadworks at Hoole Roundabout, Chester. A66: Traffic lights between North Bitts and Greta Bridge, co Durham. A1(M): Southbound lane closures N of Scotch Corner, N Yorkshire. A1: Lane closures between Selby and Wetherby.

Scotland: A739: Clyde Tunnel Expressway closed southbound at Shieldhall Road Flyover (AS): diversions. A742: Temporary signals between Greenock and Inverkip. A819: Roadworks N of Inverary. A698: Temporary lights at Kelso.

Information supplied by the AA.

Air

Despite strike of baggage handlers, BA plan to operate nearly 90 per cent of European and domestic flights from terminal one, Heathrow. Shuttle and long-haul flights unaffected.

Because of French customs staff dispute, delays likely at French airports—and also border posts.

Today's anniversary

Arcangelo Corelli was born at Fusignano, 1653 and Edward German at Whitchurch, Shropshire, 1862. Deaths: Molière, Paris, 1673; Heinrich Heine, Paris, 1856; Geronimo, Apache leader, Fort Sill, Oklahoma, 1908.

The Times list of best-selling books

Hardback

Great Railway Journeys of the World	Michael Frayn, Ludovic Kennedy etc	BBC	£9.95
Midnight's Children	Salman Rushdie	Cape	£7.50
French Leave 1982/3	Richard Binns	Chiltern House	£3.95
Miller's Antiques Price Guide 1982	compiled by Martin & Judith Miller	Mitchell Beazley/ MJM Publications	£8.95
1982 Michelin Guide to Great Britain and Ireland		Michelin	£4.85
The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail	Michael Baigent, Richard Leigh & Henry Lincoln	Cape	£8.95
Hugh Johnson's Pocket Wine Book		Mitchell Beazley	£3.95
The Little Oxford Dictionary	edited by Julia Swannell	OUP	£2.25
Beningfield's Countryside	Gordon Beningfield	Allen Lane	£8.95
Guinness Book of Records 1982	edited by Norris McWhirter	Guinness	£4.99

The Times list is based on trade sales through Hammick's to 400 bookshops and verified retail sales through eight Hammick's bookshops and 20 others.

Weather

A ridge of high pressure will maintain a cold E airstream over the UK

6 am to midnight

London, SE England, E Anglia: Cloudy, outbreaks of drizzle or sleet, perhaps some snow in places; wind E, light or moderate; max temp 3 or 4C (37 to 39F).

Central S, SW, Central N England, Midlands, Channel Islands, S Wales: Cloudy, some drizzle or sleet at first, some bright intervals developing; wind E to NE, light; max temp 3 to 6C (37 to 43F).

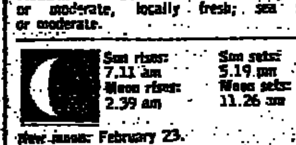
E, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Orkney, Shetland: Cloudy, outbreaks of mainly light rain or drizzle; wind E, light or moderate; max temp 3 or 4C (37 to 39F).

N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland: Cloudy, some drizzle at first, bright intervals developing; wind mainly E, light; max temp 4 or 5C (39 to 41F).

Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Argyll, N Ireland: Fog patches early, variable cloud, some bright intervals; wind mainly SE, light; max temp 4 to 6C (39 to 43F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Mostly dry in NW; some rain or sleet in E and S.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover: Wind E, moderate or fresh; sea slight or moderate. English Channel (E): Wind E, light or moderate; sea slight. St George's Channel: Wind E, light; increasing to moderate or fresh; sea smooth, becoming moderate. Irish Sea: Wind SE, light or moderate, locally fresh; sea slight or moderate.



Sun rises: 7.11 am | Sun sets: 5.19 pm
Moon rises: 2.39 am | Moon sets: 11.26 am

New moon: February 23.

Lighting up time

London 5.49 pm to 6.39 am
Bristol 5.59 pm to 6.49 am
Edinburgh 5.50 pm to 7.02 am
Manchester 5.53 pm to 6.52 am
Penzance 6.13 pm to 6.58 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fg, fog; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	c	4	39	Guernsey	c	4	39
Birmingham	c	3	37	Inverness	s	7	45
Blackpool	s	5	41	Jersey	c	5	41
Bristol	c	5	41	London	d	4	39
Cardiff	c	3	37	Manchester	f	4	39
Edinburgh	fg	-1	30	Newcastle	c	5	41
Glasgow	s	0	32	Ronaldsway	f	5	41

Highest and lowest

Highest day temp: Inverness, Kinloss, 10C (50F). Lowest day max: Edinburgh, Leuchars, 1C (34F). Highest rainfall: Beaufort Park, Hastings, 0.03in. Highest sunshine: Morecambe, Tenby, 8.9hr.

London

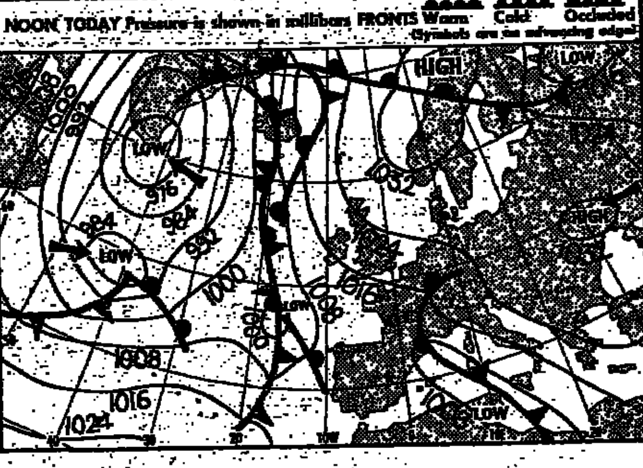
Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 4C (39F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 3C (37F). Humidity: 6 pm, 77 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, a trace. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Bar, mean sea level, 6pm, 1,023.4 millibars, rising. 1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

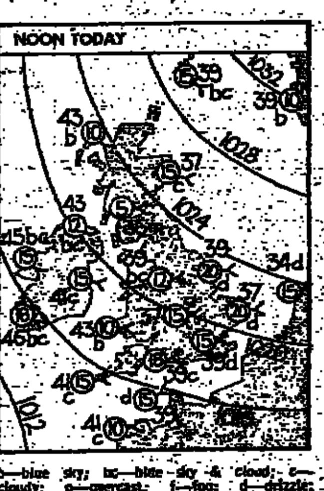
Satellite predictions

Figures give time of visibility, where rising, maximum elevation, and direction of setting. Asterisk denotes entering or leaving eclipse.

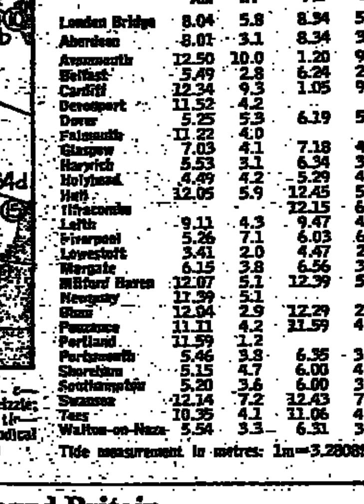
MANCHESTER: Cosmos 1518: (Feb 18) 3.54-3.55; E*; 15E; ENE and 5.29-5.33; W*; 80NNE; ENE. Cosmos 236R: 18.19-18.22; S; 20SE; E and 19.53-19.55; WSW; 35SW; SW*. Cosmos 956R: (Feb 18) 6.27-6.31; N; 40E; SE. Cosmos 185R: 19.11-19.19; WNW; 25WSW; SSW. Cosmos 1220: 18.36-18.40; NNW; 20NNE; NE* and 20.17-20.19; NW; 30NNW; NNW*. Intercosmos 14R: 18.36-18.42; NW; 55WSW; S.

Predictions supplied by Earth Satellite Unit, Aston University.





b—blue sky; bc—half clouded; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled. Temperature centigrade.



High tides

[illegible]

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain

[illegible]

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

[illegible]

